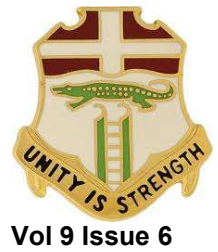




READY RIFLES and the Regulars "SITREP"

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



Washington DC Reunion, September 2023

Mike Streff has been working hard on planning the next reunion. He is doing an outstanding job in our goal to announce the dates at least a year in advance. It will be in September 2023. We are in the final stages of signing a contract with the hotel. The exact dates will be published in the July Sitrep. Updates on itinerary to follow as planning continues. Please start contacting old buddies and make plans to join us in Washington DC.

Roll Call – Geary Bush

Greetings to all my Zoo brothers!



Figure 1: Geary Bush

Before I start, I would like to thank the people that started, manage, and made this organization possible. You guys are the best!

It was 1977, I was 19 and going nowhere fast. I was working about 60 hours a week as a part timer in a local supermarket. Spent my free time hanging out with my friends, chasing girls (they ran fast from me) and consuming copious quantities of adult beverages. I came to that fork in the road and knew I had to do something, or I would come to no good. One day an Army recruiter was at my brother's school. He came home with a bunch of literature, I looked through the material and a light bulb went off in my head and the rest is history.

After a 6-month delayed entry, I said "I do" to Uncle Sam on 29 May '78 at Ft. Hamilton in Brooklyn, NY. I was sent to Ft. Dix for Basic Training. I did my AIT at Ft. Benning as a 11C and went straight to Jump School after that. At Jump School, I had what I consider the greatest disappointment of my life; on Friday afternoon of tower week, I broke my left ankle in 3 places on my second jump from the 250' tower. I spent most of Nov. and Dec. of '78 in the hospital and home in a full-length cast.

At the end of Feb. of '79 I was sent to my first duty station, A Co. 1/22 Inf at Ft. Carson, Colorado. I will never forget the first time I saw the Rockies; it was a total OMG experience. I hope to get back there some day, such a beautiful place.



Figure 2: Battalion Formation

Sometime in early 1980, orders came down and I was going to Germany. I drove home in March for about 30 days of leave and spent Easter with the family then off to Germany.

The two years I spent in the 52nd Infantry had a profound impact on my life. I learned a lot including responsibility and leadership. I started out as a gunner in a 4-duece platoon where I stayed for about a year and a half. After going to the promotion board, I was sent to B. Co and was the squad leader of one of the gun squads.

I served with a lot of outstanding people and have always felt fortunate about it. The senior



Figure 5: Bull Dog Week, Push Ball Competition



Figure 3: Border tour with Scout Platoon



Figure 4: Adventure Training

NCO's and officers were first rate. Far too many to mention though I cannot forget the First Sargent's of both CSC and B Co., 1st Sgt Bowman and 1st Sgt Brown two men I have always admired. There was Lieutenant whose name escapes me, late Christmas Eve, or early Christmas morning 1981 came to the barracks and brought a bunch of us back to his home for a big Christmas breakfast. I will never forget that.



Figure 7: In front of East German Guard



Figure 8: Oktoberfest in Munich, 1981

While in Germany, I tried to do as many things and go to as many places as I could. Visited a few other countries, learned to ski in Bad Tolz, spent three or four days in Berlin including a tour of the commie side. Just before I got out, I spent two weeks traveling Italy, I visited the town both my maternal grandparents were from and met relatives I did not know about. I sometimes went on the Volksmarches; I enjoyed the beer drinking at the end of the walk. Even made it to Munich for the Oktoberfest in 81. Overall, had tremendous time there and will forever be grateful for the opportunities I had.



Figure 6: Agropoli, Italy the town my grandparents came from

After I left the Service in May of 82, I went home joined the 42nd Aviation Bn of the NY Army National Guard, enrolled in college and went back to work in a supermarket. I finished school in '85, left

the Guard in '86. Also, in 1986 I started my first full time job since the Army as a copier salesman for Canon. I was with Canon for a couple of years and bounced around a couple other companies in office equipment.

In 1988, I met my future wife on Labor Day weekend in West Hampton NY. That is a story in its own. I went back into the guard in 1990, this time with the Long-Range Surveillance Detachment of the 42 Inf. In February '91, we were married took two weeks for our Honeymoon. Came back and was deployed for 3 weeks for desert training at Ft. Irwin because Gulf War I. When I came back, I learned the Branch Manager was irate with me for being in the Guard. Not too much after that I found myself unemployed. After my time was up with the National Guard I left for the last time. I quickly found a new job selling mailing machines. In 1993 my first daughter was born. The following year I left office equipment sales and went into Construction Equipment Sales where I am still at. In 1996 my second daughter was born. I was with a family-owned company, Pride Equipment for 22 years, our business was mostly rental of man lifts, telehandlers and forklifts. In my time with them we grew from just over 400 pieces in the rental fleet to over 4,000 pieces. In 2017 they sold the company to Sunbelt Rentals where I am at now and will be for the next year or two when I will retire.

That is it, the last 45 years of my life in a few paragraphs; hope I did not put anyone to sleep. I am looking forward to our next reunion and God Bless!

What Is Flag Day?

Taken from: <https://www.history.com/news/what-is-flag-day>

Discover the history of the annual holiday and check out 13 facts about the American flag and how to properly display it.

BY: JENNIE COHEN UPDATED: JUN 13, 2022, ORIGINAL: JUN 14, 2018

When the American Revolution broke out in 1775, the colonists weren't fighting united under a single flag. Instead, most regiments participating in the war for independence against the British fought under their own flags. In June of 1775, the Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia to create the Continental

Army—a unified colonial fighting force—with the hopes of a more organized battle against its colonial oppressors. This led to the creation of what was, essentially, the first “American” flag, the Continental Colors.

For some, this flag, which was comprised of 13 red and white alternating stripes and a Union Jack in the corner, was too similar to that of the British. George Washington soon realized that flying a flag that was even remotely close to the British flag was not a great confidence-builder for the revolutionary effort, so he turned his efforts towards creating a new symbol of freedom for the soon-to-be fledgling nation.

On June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress took a break from writing the Articles of Confederation and passed a resolution stating that “the flag of the United States be 13 stripes, alternate red and white,” and that “the union be 13 stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.”

Over 100 years later, in 1916, President Woodrow Wilson marked the anniversary of that decree by officially establishing June 14 as Flag Day.

Facts About the U.S. Flag

1. Bernard Cigrand, a small-town Wisconsin teacher, originated the idea for an annual flag day, to be celebrated across the country every June 14, in 1885. That year, he led his school in the first formal observance of the holiday. Cigrand, who later changed careers and practiced dentistry in Illinois, continued to promote his concept and advocate respect for the flag throughout his life.

2. It is widely believed that Betsy Ross, who assisted the Revolutionary War effort by repairing uniforms and sewing tents, made the first American flag. However, there is no historical evidence that she contributed to Old Glory’s creation. It was not until her grandson William Canby held an 1870 press conference to recount the story that the American public learned of her possible role. It has since been confirmed that Francis Hopkinson, a delegate from New Jersey who signed the Declaration of Independence, designed the American flag.

3. The lyrics of “The Star-Spangled Banner,” America’s national anthem since 1931, are taken from a patriotic poem written by Francis Scott Key after he witnessed the Battle of Fort McHenry during the War of 1812. His words were set to the tune of “To Anacreon in Heaven,” a popular British drinking song.

4. In the 1950s, when it seemed certain that Alaska would be admitted to the Union, designers began retooling the American flag to add a 49th star to the existing 48. Meanwhile, a 17-year-old Ohio student named Bob Heft borrowed his mother’s sewing machine, disassembled his family’s 48-star flag and stitched on 50 stars in a proportional pattern. He handed in his creation to his history teacher for a class project, explaining that he expected Hawaii would soon achieve statehood as well.

Heft also sent the flag to his congressman, Walter Moeller, who presented it to President Eisenhower after both new states joined the Union. Eisenhower selected Heft’s design, and on July 4, 1960, the president and the high school student stood together as the 50-star flag was raised for the first time. Heft’s teacher promptly changed his grade from a B- to an A.

5. Unlike setting an intact flag on fire, flying one upside-down is not always intended as an act of protest. According to the Flag Code, it can also be an official distress signal.

6. The Flag Code stipulates that the Stars and Stripes should not be used as apparel, bedding or drapery.

7. The practice of draping coffins in the American flag is not reserved for military veterans and government officials. On the contrary, any burial may incorporate this tradition.

8. Etiquette calls for American flags to be illuminated by sunlight or another light source while on display.

9. During the Vietnam War era, some demonstrators burned American flags as an act of protest. The Flag Protection Act of 1968 was enacted in response, making it illegal to burn or otherwise deface the Stars and Stripes. In two landmark decisions 20 years later, the Supreme Court ruled that the government couldn’t curb individuals’ First Amendment rights by prohibiting desecration of the U.S. flag. Respectful burning of damaged flags according to established protocol has always been acceptable.

10. When flags are taken down from their poles, care must be taken to keep them from touching the ground. In fact, the American flag should always be kept aloft, meaning that rugs and carpets featuring the Stars and Stripes are barred by the Flag Code.

11. When the flags of cities, states, localities or groups are flown on the same staff as the American flag, Old Glory should always be at the peak. When flags of two or more nations are displayed, they should be of equivalent size and flown from separate staffs of the same height.

12. The Flag Code strictly prohibits adding an insignia, drawing or other markings to the Stars and Stripes. Some American politicians have been known to defy this regulation by signing copies of the U.S. flag for their supporters.

Proclamation 1335—Flag Day

Taken from: <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/proclamation-1335-flag-day>

May 30, 1916

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

My Fellow Countrymen:

Many circumstances have recently conspired to turn our thoughts to a critical examination of the conditions of our national life, of the influences which have seemed to threaten to divide us in interest and sympathy, of forces within and forces without that seemed likely to draw us away from the happy traditions of united purpose and action of which we have been so proud, It has therefore seemed to me fitting that I should call your attention to the approach of the anniversary of the day upon which the flag of the United States was adopted by the Congress as the emblem of the Union, and to suggest to you that it should this year and in the years to come be given special significance as a day of renewal and reminder, a day upon which we should direct our minds with a special desire of renewal to thoughts of the ideals and principles of which we have sought to make our great Government the embodiment.

I therefore suggest and request that throughout the nation and if possible in every community the fourteenth day of June be observed as FLAG DAY with special patriotic exercises, at which means shall be taken to give significant expression to our thoughtful love of America, our comprehension of the great mission of liberty and justice to which we have devoted ourselves as a people, our pride in the history and our enthusiasm for the political programme of the nation, our determination to make it greater and purer with each generation, and our resolution to demonstrate to all the world its, vital union in sentiment and purpose, accepting only those as true compatriots who feel as we do the compulsion of this supreme allegiance. Let us on that day rededicate ourselves to the nation, "one and inseparable" from which every thought that is not worthy of our fathers' first vows in independence, liberty, and right shall be excluded and in which we shall stand with united hearts, for an America which no man can corrupt, no influence draw away from its ideals, no force divide against itself,-a nation signally distinguished among all the nations of mankind for its clear, individual conception alike of its duties and its privileges, its obligations and its rights.

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

Done at the City of Washington this thirtieth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixteen, and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and fortieth.



WOODROW WILSON

By the President:

ROBERT Lansing

Secretary of State

From the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors have been working hard to maintain and improve our organization. We continue to:

- Expand the battalion succession roster; you can help by adding names and dates to the roster. More information is in this SITREP.
- Locate former members of the battalion and increase the active membership.
- Provide remembrances and memorials for members that have passed.
- 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 15 months away planning began back in 2021 before the San Antonio reunion had concluded. More information is in this SITREP

Annual Meeting. We will hold our annual meeting via Zoom in September 2022. Watch the July and August SITREPs for more on the date and time, as well as information on how to join.

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

Battalion Succession Roster

We continue to expand the battalion succession list using Bill Burt's roster. In the attached pdf there are separate tabs for the battalion headquarters, HHC and each company. The list is organized with years across the top and duty positions on the left side. The names in the grid are those soldiers we have identified to this point. Below the grid are names we have identified from the roster without duty positions. We are about 25% through Bill's roster.

We need your help to move soldiers' names from below the grid, highlighted in tan, to their appropriate place in the grid. We are also looking for names, dates (years will do), and duty unit (down to platoon or section) of fellow soldiers who are not on the roster. Send what you recall to Bill Burt. Ready Rifle!

Taps

Brothers that we have recently found out that they have passed:

Michael J. Gardner

C Co, 1985



Michael Jerome Gardner, 20, dies Wednesday (May 15, 1985) in Bamberg, Germany.

Born in Rembert, he was a son of Hampton and Esther W. Gardner.

He received his formal education in the public schools of Sumter County. He joined the Army June 25, 1982. He was a member of the Nondenominational Church in San Bernardino, Calif.

Survivors include his parents of Rembert; a daughter, Monica Ransom of Rembert; a brother, Hampton Gregory Gardner of Sumter; three sisters, Gwendolyn, Sarah, and Melinda Gardner all of the home; and grand-parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gardner Sr. of Rembert and Josephine Walters of Washington D.C.

Services will be at 4 p.m. Thursday in the Rafting Creek Baptist Church, Rembert, with the Rev. Douglas Franklin officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery. The cortege will leave the home, 40 Lewis Circle, Rembert at 3:25 p.m. The body will be placed in the church at 3 p.m. The family will be in the chapel of Williams Funeral Home Inc. from 7 to 7:30 tonight.
Taken from the Item, Sumter, South Carolina 22 May 1985, Wednesday page 2

Jackie Carl Thomas

B Co 1976, passed June 9, 2021



Mr. Jackie Carl ("Mr. T. ") Thomas, Sr., Retired Sergeant, was born April 4, 1949, to Dezzie B. and Mary Stephens Thomas in Opelika, Alabama, and graduated in 1965 from Sanford High School. He was a member of Pleasant Hill AME Methodist Church, Salem, Al. He married Robbin Edwards on June 28, 1980. He served in the United States Army, retired after 20 years of service, and received numerous medals and commendations: Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal (6th Award), National Defense Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal with 3 Bronze Service Star, Noncommissioned Officer's Professional Development Ribbon with Numeral 2, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (3rd Award), Kuwait Liberation Medal, Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar, Driver and Mechanic Badge with Driver-A Bar. Jackie used to DJ in the Army, loved his two grandchildren, loved traveling and going to flea markets. He also worked for Copperas Cove ISD as a school bus driver.

Survivors are his wife, Robbin Thomas of Copperas Cove, TX; two sons, James Simpson of Orlando, Fl, and Jackie Thomas Jr. (Melanie) of Houston, TX; his mother, Mary Thomas of Opelika, Al; two brothers, Jimmie Thomas of Opelika, Al, and Felix Thomas of Montgomery, Al; three sisters, Cheryl Lyles of Opelika, Al, Lorraine DeRamus of Ft. Walton Beach, Fl, and Dorothy Tarver of Montgomery, Al; and two grandchildren, Mia Thomas and Jackson Thomas; and a host of relatives and friends.

<https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/21384890/jackie-carl-thomas>

Johnny G. Woolard Jr.



COPPERAS COVE -- Services for retired Sgt. Maj. Johnny G. Woolard Jr., 57, of Copperas Cove will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Crawford-Bowers Funeral Home in Copperas Cove with Dr. Rodney Bolejack and the Rev. Darwin Evans officiating.

Burial with full military honors will be in Kempner Cemetery in Kempner.

Mr. Woolard died Friday, March 9, 2001 in a Fort Hood hospital.

He was born in Greenville, N.C. He retired in 1996 with more than 29 years of service in the U.S. Army. He earned the Bronze Star Medal; the Meritorious Service Medal, second award; the Army Commendation Medal, fifth award; the Army Achievement Medal, second award; the Army Good Conduct Medal, eighth award; the National Defense Service Medal, second award; the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; the Vietnam Service Medal; Non-commissioned Officers Professional Development Ribbon with number four; the Army Service Ribbon; the Overseas Service Ribbon, third award; the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry Unit Citation with palm; the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; the Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge with rifle bar; the Expert Infantryman Badge; and the Drill Sergeant Identification Badge. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Bowlers Association and the Centex Modelers Club. He was a member of Church of God and had lived in the area since 1991.

He married Peggy Jo Kibodeaux in Gatesville on June 4, 1970.

Survivors are his wife, Peggy J. Woolard of Copperas Cove; three sons, Steven C. Woolard of Hanahan, S.C., Daniel D. Woolard of Copperas Cove, and Donald A. Woolard of Milwaukee, Wis.; a daughter, Darlene M. Brummett of Huntsville; two brothers, Bobby Woolard of Greenville and Willie G. Harold of Kanapolis, N.C.; two sisters, Frances Glesson and Ann Glesson, both of Greenville; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Roster News

As we get names of soldiers to look for, let us know any information about them i.e., hometown, first name, high school, parents name or other family members, wife's name, rank, company they were in and years, approximate age then or now, where they might of went to after Bamberg. Even if you are not sure, please let us know, anything helps. If by chance you still have old orders with other names on them, please send me a copy or text.

Also, if you know of any corrections to your information or others information, please send me the corrections. This roster is only as accurate as people keep me up to date.

2023 Annual Meeting

Just a quick 2023 Annual Meeting update. As part of becoming a non-profit organization we are required to hold an annual meeting. During reunion years, this meeting happens during the reunion. On off reunion years, the meeting will be a "Zoom". The 2023 Annual meeting will be held in September. Once a firm date is set, an invitation will be sent out via email to all members on the roster. Please make plans to attend this meeting.

Battalion History Project Update

We had a great response on additions and corrections to our Succession Roster. We are currently making the changes. We hope to send it out again for more corrections and additions in a future newsletter. So, keep dusting off the memories, looking at old pictures.

The other part of this mission is document what the battalion and companies' activities during this time. We need your help to find out; 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 information to LMJWRB@msn.com, reply to the email that the Sitrep came from or send Bill Burt a Facebook message.

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

Get a Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC)

From: <https://www.va.gov/health-care/get-health-id-card/>

Learn how to get a Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC). Find out what to do if your card is lost or stolen and what to do with any old ID cards you may have used for VA health care in the past.

What's a Veteran Health Identification Card, and how will I use it?

When you're enrolled in VA health care, you'll use your Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC) to check in to your appointments at VA medical centers. This secure ID card keeps your personal information safe while giving us the information we need to easily access your VA health record.

You may also use this card to get discounts offered to Veterans at many stores, businesses, and restaurants. If you have a VHIC, you don't need to request another type of photo ID card to prove you're a Veteran or to get retail or business discounts.

Note: You can't use your VHIC as a credit card or insurance card. It doesn't pay copays or authorize care at non-VA health facilities.

How do I get my VHIC?

First, you'll need to be enrolled in VA health care. If you're not already enrolled, find out [how to apply for VA health care](#).

After you receive your VA health care welcome call

Contact your nearest [VA medical center](#) and ask to speak with the enrollment coordinator. Ask the coordinator to help you arrange to get your picture taken for your new Veteran Health Identification Card.

You can also ask for help with getting your picture taken at your next VA health care appointment.

When you get your picture taken

You'll need to show a current form of primary identification.

Please bring your current, unexpired:

State-issued driver's license, **or**

U.S. passport or passport card, **or**

Other government ID issued by a federal, state, or local government agency

Note: This ID must show your picture and date of birth. If it doesn't also show your address, you'll need to bring a separate document to confirm your address. This may include your electric bill, cable bill, voter registration card, or another mailed document.

After we take your picture

We'll process your VHIC and send it to you by mail. You should receive your card within 10 days.

What should I do if I don't receive my VHIC in the mail?

If it's been more than 10 days since you've had your picture taken and you haven't received your card, please call the [VA medical center](#) where you had your picture taken. Or call us at [877-222-8387](tel:877-222-8387). We're here Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET. If you have hearing loss, call [TTY: 711](tel:711).

What should I do if my VHIC is lost or stolen?

You can request a replacement card at the [VA medical center](#) where you had your picture taken. You'll need to bring your driver's license, passport, or other government ID or be able to answer a series of challenge questions so we can verify your identity before we give you a new card.

If you've changed your medical center since getting your original card, you can contact the medical center where you currently receive care. Or, call us at [877-222-8387](tel:877-222-8387), Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET. Our staff will need to verify your identity with a series of challenge questions before we can send a new card.

What should I do with my old Veterans identification card?

Please destroy it by cutting it up or shredding it. We want all Veterans who are enrolled in VA health care to have the new VHIC. This new card offers even more security to protect your personal information.

It also offers other helpful new features. These include "VA" printed in braille to help Veterans with low vision to quickly recognize the card as well as a display of your latest branch of service emblem and a list of special awards you may have received.

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 2 websites, one on Facebook, search the groups for 1st Battalion 52nd Infantry Bamberg Germany. The other site is on the Ning network at <http://deltacompany-52nd-inf.ning.com/>. Each site 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 1.52.cold.war.vets@gmail.com or LMJWRB@msn.com

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:

1. 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).
2. The announcement is in the text of the message, not as attachment.
3. 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

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. 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

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