



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 10 Issue 4

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2023 Washington D.C. Reunion Schedule and Sign-up

By Bill Burt

All, we are excited to announce the schedule for the 2023 Washington DC reunion. Please see attached document with A LOT of information that you have been asking for. Mike Streff has done a lot of hard work and planning, and this will be a very exciting reunion.

Roll Call – Les Cooper

I would like to thank Les for doing this for me!



OK in 1977 I enlisted as a 55G Nuclear weapons maintenance specialist till 1981. Basic at Ft. Knox Splinter Village. AIT at Redstone Arsenal Huntsville Alabama. Stationed Det 168 Cakmaki Turkey 77 to 78, HHCUSFAC Ft. Sill Oklahoma 78 to 79. Finally, 583rd Ord. Handorf Germany. 79 till ETS in 81. Enlisted again in 86 as a 19D Cav. Scout ONSUT training Disneyland Ft. Knox KY. Late 86 to late 87 HHC 1-8 CAV. FT. Hood Texas. Late 87 to 90 HHC Zoo-1/52 - 7-6 Inf. Bamberg Germany.

After getting out in 90, I worked and retired from ALCOA Warrick Operations Newburgh Indiana on 1 Feb. of 2021. Now I garden and take care of our house. Retirement is great! I'm gonna teach my grandson to shoot soon.



52nd Infantry Unit Tribute Plaque at the National Museum of the United States Army

Thank you - we have exceeded our goal of \$1,000 raised for the Unit Tribute Plaque, which will be placed at the National Museum of the United States Army.

Our plaque is ordered and will be in place at the museum in time for our 2023 reunion in September. If you would still like to contribute, please do. One of our corporate donors said we can use their donation for either the plaque or our other charitable activities. You would be a contributor to the plaque and your donation would free up funds for the other important causes our organization supports.



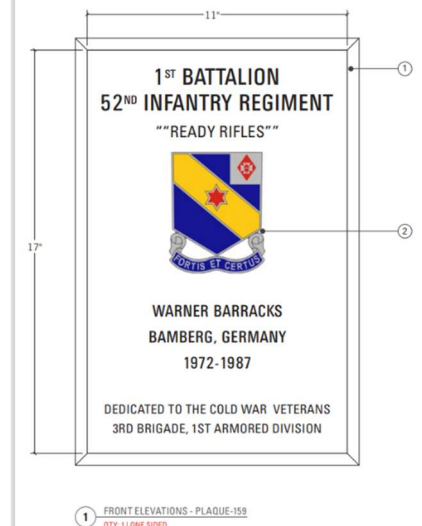
Unit tributes line the Path of Remembrance leading up to the Museum. The 12"x 18" plaques honor individual Army units of any size and period. The plaques are engraved in polished Mesabi Black granite. Below is a picture of some of these plaques.

We have ordered our plaque, and it will be in place by September for our reunion. During our visit to the reunion, we will gather at the unit tribute and honor those who served with our unit. Here is a copy of the design. (tentative design as of March 12, 2023 – design could still change some)

We have an online way for you to donate to the unit tribute plaque. Go to

<https://www.152-76inf-coldwarvetsbamberg.org/> and

click on the "Support Our Cause" tab. It will accept PayPal or credit card. Or you can pay by check, please send your checks to the address below. Make them out to Veterans of the 52nd and 6th



Infantry Stationed in Bamberg. (or as much of it that will fit). Add Unit Tribute Plaque to the memo line.

Mail to:

Veterans of the 52nd and 6th Infantry Stationed in Bamberg
C/O Mike Streff
25 South Pointe Lane
Moneta, Virginia 24121

April Military Anniversaries & Observances

- Month of the Military Child (1983)
- Air Force Reserves Birthday (April 14, 1948)
- Army Reserves Birthday (April 23, 1908)
- Silver Star Service Banner Day (April 29, 2010)

April Military Day

Taken from <https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/army-day/>

Army Day was first celebrated on May 1, 1928. That date was chosen in hopes of dampening Communists' celebration of Workers' Day, which also occurs on May 1. But, starting in 1929, Army Day was

changed to April 6, the anniversary date of the United States' entry into World War I. Have we missed something?

They're there at the front line, holding positions in the most dangerous territory in any military theater. They march hundreds of miles with packs that easily weigh more than they do, carrying needed supplies and equipment into locations that are often under heavy enemy fire.

For many of them, the constant sound of mortar fire is their lullaby, and a silent night is one to dread where the enemy can come at any time, and their plans remain largely a mystery to these noble men and women. Army Day celebrates these most fundamental of the armed forces and reminds us of the sacrifices they make to protect home and country.

History of Army Day

World War II was in full swing when Franklin D. Roosevelt sat the American Presidency. He held an unenviable position at the time, leading the American nation into a war that followed on the heels of what had been called "The War to End All Wars". Little did they know the war to follow would be the most devastating and destructive war in history, and more lives would be lost during it than they possibly could have imagined in their worst and most horror-driven nightmares.

Vital to the efforts of every member of the Allies was their military, and most importantly, those men and women who crossed foreign ground on foot to defend, recover, and take enemy positions that would alter the flow of the war. Army Day was established to commemorate all members of all armed forces and the civilians that support them.

It was clear he truly understood the function of our military men and women when he cited them as "A Mighty Arm of the Tree of Liberty". He knew that they were all that stood between the safety, security, and peace of those who fought against tyranny, those who pushed back against the cruel and dominating forces of the Axis of Evil who sought to destroy it all. Army Day serves as a reminder that everything that we hold dear is thanks to the efforts of these men and women, and the blood they spill in the name of our freedoms.

How to celebrate Army Day

Army Day is best celebrated by doing your part to remind the veterans of the world's armed forces that their sacrifice is appreciated. Remember that everything they do helps you live the lives of peace and security that we experience every day. Volunteering at homeless shelters is a sad but effective way of ensuring that those veterans most receive your help.

It stands as an uncomfortable fact that a disturbing number of these warriors for peace and security fall through the cracks after they return home from their service. Army Day is your chance to help make a difference in the lives of people who gave everything to make a difference in yours.

No matter where you live, you are sure to come across a veteran shelter where you can stop by and help out, whether it's arranging food or providing company in times that can often feel so lonely for those who have already given so much. It will also allow you to hear about thoughts, feelings, and experiences straight from the horse's mouth, or should that be the hero's mouth.

This will help give you a greater understanding and could even change your perspective on everything you thought you knew already. If you feel genuinely inspired to make a difference for these veterans, events, and parades will help bring in funds for better support to improve the quality of living that they, without a shadow of a doubt, entirely deserve. If there is not an event already in your area, you can take the initiative and organize one yourself, because change never happens without someone making the first move.

If you are unable to make it to a local veteran's center, whether because of location, work, or other responsibilities, this is okay. You can still do your part in celebrating Army Day. If you are a teacher, for example, providing lessons for your students who may not know as much about the history of our armed forces as you will help keep the legacy alive. It will give them a renewed respect and appreciation for the Greatest Generations that came before us.

Depending on their ages, you can do a range of activities, including worksheets or even performances of iconic war-time poems or reenactments. Older students may be able to develop performances or models of famous moments when the Allies turned the tide. If you'd prefer to keep things a little less messy, essays on what the sacrifices of these men and women mean to them will always bring up plenty of surprises.

Everyone knows someone connected to the Army, and this is what makes Army Day strike such a chord with so many people not just across the country but also all around the world. Even now, we still see the repercussions of such conflicts, whether on home soil or in far-flung nations.

To show appreciation and do our best to repay what is undoubtedly an unpayable debt owed, celebrating Army Day is possible by donating your time and energy to those affected by conflicts directly, or by spending time with friends and family members impacted in whatever way that suits you and makes everyone feel close and comfortable.

Whatever you do, remember to give thanks, wave a flag, and remember that no matter how bad things may get for you in your personal life, your social life, your online life, or even professional life, there is still a chance that it won't compare to the experience of those who have seen conflict, engaged in battle, and come out of the other side to tell the tale, especially when there are those who are not so lucky to say the same and be right there with you, celebrating at your side.

For this, we salute you, so Happy Army Day to all.

Updated Roster

Attached is an updated Roster. I switched it around a little hopefully adding some useful info. One change is that I added which unit people served in. Another change is I added a column on when the last time the person gave me updated contact info. Look it over and reach out to someone you haven't talked to for a while. We were a family back then and that has never stopped. It is a great feeling talking to an old buddy. You will pick up right where you left off.

So, if you are in contact with anyone else, forward them to me or send them my contact information and let's get them in the group. Let's keep growing our reunions attendance.

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

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.

Updated Succession Roster

By Zak Kozak and Bill Burt

Look over the attached succession roster and help us add to it or correct mistakes. Keep the names coming! We have added a lot of names to the succession roster. The names in green on the attached Succession Roster have newly been added. This roster is getting bigger and better thanks to all of you!

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. Please see our current Succession Roster attached. We have made some progress on this roster, and we would like the momentum to continue.

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. 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.

3. Remember the soldiers next to you 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.

In Search of

Please read it and if you can tell me any other information or their location. The littlest thing could be the one thing that locates them. Also, if there is someone that is not on the roster, let me know so that we can start the search for them.

- A Co, J. Avila 1988
- B Co, Donald S. Blessing 1984
- C Co, Tim Boles 1972-73
- D Co, Alvin R Dozier 1985
- E Co, Bill Dollar
- HHC, Serman L Draper

Helpful Tips – Live Whole Health – Take 12

Taken from <https://news.va.gov/117847/live-whole-health-episode-165-take-12/>

By Andrea Young - Health Systems Specialist – Communications with the Office of Patient Centered Care & Cultural Transformation

We often get sucked into a screen all day long—and often well into the night, too. Social media, television, streaming movies and other online temptations are a constant companion that take us out of the real

world and into the virtual. In between these moments, we may take a 3-minute break here, a 4-minute break there, and maybe another 5 minutes while we wait for our coffee or tea. Unfortunately, while we are focusing on our screens, we are not paying attention to our bodies, our breath or our thoughts.

Take 12 today.

There are benefits of adding mini breaks into your day. Start here with a full 12-minute break that will calm your mind and gently move the body. In this 12-minute video, John Kavanaugh, recreation assistant from the VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System, offers a series of Qigong movements and breathing practices that you can do any time during the day, or night, to restore your sense of health and peace.

Play

If you don't have a full 12 minutes to practice today, you can try diaphragmic breathing, also known as "deep belly breathing" anytime—even as you are scrolling your device. This breathing technique helps you focus on your diaphragm, a muscle under your lower ribcage at the base of the chest. By "training" your diaphragm to help open your lungs, you can help your body breathe more efficiently.

Diaphragmic breathing has many benefits that can affect your entire body. It's the basis for many meditation and relaxation techniques, which can lower your stress levels, lower your blood pressure and regulate other critical bodily processes.

Give diaphragmic breathing a try.

Lie on your back if you can. If not, sit in a chair. Let your body relax into the ground or in the chair. Use whatever props you may want to be comfortable, such as a rolled-up blanket under your knees or behind your back. Let your eyes close or find a point to look at without straining. Place one hand over your bellybutton and one hand on your chest.

Bring attention to your breath. Observe the breath without changing it. Notice how it enters and leaves your body. Do your hands move? Does one hand move more than the other? Take a few breaths like this.

Slowly, bring more air into the lower part of your lungs. To do this, think about your belly as a balloon. When you inhale, use the air to inflate the balloon. When you exhale, think of deflating the balloon. This should make the hand on your bellybutton move up and down more than the one on your chest. Continue to take slow, deep breaths like this.

There are many benefits to relaxed breathing. It can help your body and mind become calm. It can help you deal with stress. Practicing breathing before going to bed can help you fall asleep. Studies show that breathing exercises can help lower blood pressure, too.

Learn more about the amazing power of breath here.

Membership Donations

There is no membership fee to belong. We do ask 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 to be a member but would be greatly appreciated.

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

- PayPal – Go to our website to pay through PayPal
<https://www.152-76inf-oldwarvetsbamberg.org/support-our-cause>
- Credit Card –Go to our website and select "pay by credit card" in PayPal
<https://www.152-76inf-coldwarvetsbamberg.org/support-our-cause>
- Zelle or VENMO Contact Mike Streff, 703-599-3723 email streff79@comcast.net for information.

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. 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

We do not sell or share the subscriber list nor will we ever 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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