

# ENLISTED CAREER NOTES



## REENLISTMENT POLICIES

Soldiers in all grades and MOSs now face new reenlistment rules.

One new policy — the Dual Component Option — deals with in-service recruitments and makes it easier for departing Regular Army soldiers to fill Reserve slots. Also included are new reenlistment and reclassification rules that should help the Army stay up to strength in certain critical specialties.

With the Dual Component Option, soldiers can now enlist in the U.S. Army Reserve 10 days before they begin their terminal leaves, or within 10 days before they are eligible to return from overseas. Service members who have finished their six-year military obligations no longer have to enlist within 24 hours of their ETS.

The new option helps soldiers who want to reenlist but who are not at the separation or transfer point or at another military agency at the time of their ETS. It also aids those who are not at the separation or transfer point for as long as 24 hours, such as overseas returnees. The option prevents a break in military service by letting these soldiers continue in their USAR status.

The new reenlistment and reclassification rules are also expected to improve the imbalance in certain specialties. Soldiers of all grades are barred from reenlisting or reclassifying from a shortage MOS to a balanced or overstrength one. But the policy does permit soldiers to reenlist in their own MOS vacancies, whether they are short, balanced, or overstrength.

One restriction specifically prevents staff sergeants and above from reclassifying from one shortage MOS to another, but sergeants and

specialist fives are now allowed to move from one shortage specialty to another on reenlistment. The only soldiers who are permitted to reclassify to a balanced or surplus MOS are those who become medically unqualified for duty in their present skills.

The rules may be tightened even further — sergeants and specialist fives who reenlist for a second or succeeding term may be placed under the same restrictions that now govern staff sergeants.

## AIRBORNE PROMOTIONS

Temporary promotion procedures have been established for airborne soldiers in certain understrength positions to give them a better chance for promotion. Under the procedures, to be effective until 1 August 1982, promotion authorities will deduct 50 points for promotion to SGT/SP5 and 25 points for promotion to SSG from the monthly Army-wide promotion cut-off scores. This procedure pertains only to soldiers assigned to authorized positions calling for special qualification identifiers (SQIs) "P" (Parachutist), "S" (Special Forces), and "V" (Ranger).

The procedure is expected to increase promotion possibilities for several specialties that now face limited promotion opportunity because of Army-wide MOS overstrengths. These specialties are primarily in the combat support and combat service support fields.

Because the MOSs affected may vary from month to month, soldiers should check with their local personnel offices to see whether theirs are included.

Soldiers who are promoted under the temporary program will not be

allowed to move to a non-jump status assignment until they have completed a normal tour. Soldiers who are voluntarily removed from those assignments within one year of promotion will be involuntarily reclassified into a shortage MOS.

## SOCAD IN EUROPE

Soldiers who are stationed in Europe may now take advantage of SOCAD, the Servicemembers' Opportunity Associate Degree Program.

Those who enroll in SOCAD receive college credit for their military training and experience while they work toward an associate's degree. They agree to follow a set curriculum with a "home" college or university. When they are assigned to a post away from that home institution, they continue their studies at another SOCAD institution that is a part of the same curriculum network.

Credits earned at these other institutions are sent to the home college or university, and it is from this institution that the soldier ultimately receives his degree.

Five institutions offer 11 SOCAD curriculum networks for more than 25 European posts. These curriculum networks are automotive maintenance, aviation maintenance, communications electronics, data processing, diesel maintenance, food service management, law enforcement, management science, office management, transportation technology, and a flexible curriculum for soldiers who are pursuing a general studies-liberal arts option.

About 44 institutions are already offering 16 SOCAD curriculum networks to soldiers stationed in the continental United States. These curricula include civil engineering, com-

munications media, computer maintenance, digital electronics, and medical records.

Soldiers who are interested in the program should ask their local Education Centers for more information on enrollment.

### GENERATOR OPERATORS

The Army is looking for highly motivated soldiers who would like to become operators of electrical generators of 500 kilowatts or larger.

The U.S. Army Facilities Engineering Support Agency (FESA) offers a one-year course at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, to qualified soldiers. Those who complete this course are awarded primary military occupational specialty (PMOS) 52E (prime power production specialist) with an additional skill identifier in either mechanical (52), electrical (53), or instrumentation (54).

Applications are now being accepted for the class scheduled to begin 26 July. To be eligible, an applicant must be in the rank of SGT/SP5 or below, must agree to serve at least three years after completion of training, must have a GT/ST and EL score of 115 or higher, and

must have passed the basic math and science proficiency test administered through local post education centers.

For more information on the course and instructions on how to apply, any soldier who is interested should write or call the U.S. Army Facilities Engineering Support Agency, ATTN: Chief, Training Branch (FESA-MT), Fort Belvoir, VA 22060; telephone 703/664-5235/5241 or AUTOVON 354-5235/5241.

### UNQUALIFIED FOR BERLIN

Of the soldiers who arrive for duty in Berlin each week, an average of three are not qualified for their assignments. These soldiers must then be reassigned somewhere in Europe, and this means that the Berlin Command loses its replacements. It also means that U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR), or another overseas command, must find a place for them.

The two primary deficiencies that make them unqualified are Article 15s in their records or GT scores below 80. MILPO message 081700Z Dec 81 reminds all MILPOs that personnel who are scheduled for reassignment to Berlin should be

screened carefully, with particular emphasis on these two criteria. AR 614-200, Table 8-2, Column 12, lists all the criteria that soldiers must meet to be qualified for duty in Berlin.

### MOTOR SERGEANTS COURSE

The Army Ordnance Center and School has established an organizational maintenance supervisors' course for SGT/SP5s and SSGs in specialty 63B to prepare the students for motor sergeant positions.

The 11-week, self-paced course covers personnel management and supervision, maintenance and supply management, technical troubleshooting, tracked and wheeled vehicle and power generation equipment maintenance, materials handling equipment repair, and recovery.

The course is intended to fill a gap in training that previously existed between advanced individual training and advanced noncommissioned officer courses.

Any soldier who is interested in the course may write to Commander, Army Ordnance Center and School, ATTN: ATSL-DT, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005, or call AUTOVON 283-2779/2531.

## RESERVE COMPONENT NOTES

Enlisted medical personnel in the Army Reserve are encouraged to apply for the 22-month Physicians' Assistant Training Program courses that begin in February and August 1983.

Physicians' assistants (PAs), working under the direction of a physician, provide limited medical care in combat support units and clinics. Under general supervision, they are qualified by academic and practical training to evaluate, diagnose, treat, and provide some patient services, thus reducing the physicians' workloads.

This PA training program consists of two phases. The first includes classroom instruction at the Academy

of Health Sciences at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, while clinical applications and experience at Active Army hospitals make up the second phase.

Medical personnel who are selected to attend will be advanced in rank to SGT/SP5 on the date the course starts, while those at higher ranks will retain those ranks. When they successfully complete Phase I, all students will be appointed to the rank of warrant officer. Some of them may be eligible for appointment as chief warrant officers when they complete the course.

To be eligible, enlisted medical personnel must have at least 36 months

of experience, must be a member of the Ready Reserve and not on extended active duty, must be eligible for appointment to warrant officer, and must have a high school diploma or GED equivalent, a minimum GT or ST score of 110 and a completed Clinical Proficiency Test.

Applications must be prepared in accordance with DA Letter 140-82-1, dated 1 September 1981, and must arrive at Headquarters, Department of the Army, before 1 September 1982. Additional information on the program is available from Ms. Wanda McGrew at (202) 325-8480 or AUTOVON 221-8480.