

# ENLISTED CAREER NOTES



## ADVANCED NCO COURSE

Infantry Branch receives many inquiries from soldiers in the field who have not been selected to attend the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course (ANCOC). They ask to be "slipped into the course" or to be given a "back door" quota to attend. But the only Infantry soldiers who are eligible to attend the ANCOC are those who have been selected by an annual selection board, which is convened at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. We cannot make exceptions.

The ANCOC experience is designed to improve the competence of staff sergeants to assume the duties and responsibilities appropriate to sergeants first class and platoon sergeants within their CMF-MOS. The objectives of the selection board are to identify the soldiers who are best qualified to attend ANCOC on the basis of their demonstrated potential, their past performance of duty, and their ability to absorb and profit from the NCOES educational experience.

Highly motivated Infantry soldiers are urged to participate in the ANCOC nonresident course by correspondence. Applications should be submitted on DA Form 145 and forwarded to Commander, The Army Institute for Professional Development, U.S. Army Training Support Center, Newport News, VA 23628.

## AIRBORNE TRAINING

Because of the unique missions and capabilities of the airborne community, a very tight screening process is used to see that only the highest quality volunteers are accepted into it.

An airborne assignment can help

advance a soldier's career, and it can also be a rewarding experience. The completion of airborne training also makes a Ranger or Special Forces assignment possible if a soldier chooses to pursue a career in one of these specialty fields.

Specific selection and eligibility criteria for airborne training and assignment are contained in Chapter 6, AR 614-200. Applications should be processed through command channels in accordance with Procedure 3-19, DA Pamphlet 600-8.

## DRILL SERGEANT CHANGES

Some changes have been made recently in the Drill Sergeant program.

In the past, a soldier who was selected, or who volunteered, for Drill Sergeant duty was reassigned to an Army Training Center (ATC) and then scheduled for a drill sergeant class when a training seat became available.

Now, anyone who enters the program and is currently stationed in the continental United States will be sent on TDY to attend Drill Sergeant School (DSS). Upon completion of the course he will return to his home station and be reassigned immediately to an ATC to serve as a drill sergeant for two years.

If an NCO is overseas he will receive regular PCS orders assigning him to an ATC. Once he arrives he will be attached to the DSS to attend a specific class. Once he has graduated he will be placed on drill sergeant status.

Another recent change is the option to extend for six to twelve additional months as a drill sergeant. A soldier who does extend for an additional twelve months and completes the ex-

tension can request and receive the assignment of his choice, provided it is available at that time.

A soldier who requests drill sergeant duty while overseas should submit his application between eight and eleven months before his DEROS.

More information concerning the Drill Sergeant Program can be found in AR 614-200 and DA Pamphlet 600-8.

## POWER PLANT OPERATORS

The Army is looking for soldiers who are interested in operating, maintaining, and rebuilding large electrical power plants. These plants include 16-cylinder, diesel-driven engines, 4160-volt generators, gas turbine-driven units, and steam turbine generators of similar output.

The U.S. Army Facilities Engineering Support Agency is offering a one-year training course at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, for all qualified soldiers. Soldiers who complete the Prime Power Production Course will be awarded PMOS 52E with an additional skill identifier (ASI) in either mechanical (S2), electrical (S3), or instrumentation (S4).

The course has been evaluated by the American Council on Education, which recommends accreditation toward college credit for from 41 to 59 semester hours, depending on the ASI. Graduates of the course will also have a chance to take the examination for the third-class license offered by the National Institute for the Uniform Licensing of Power Engineers.

The next class begins in June 1983 with another schedule to begin about six months later.

To be eligible, soldiers must meet the following requirements:

- Be in the rank of sergeant/specialist-5 or below.
- Agree to serve at least three years after completion of the course.
- Have GT/ST and EL minimum scores of 110 or a waiver of that scoring.

- Must have passed the basic math and science proficiency test administered through the local post education center.

More information on the course and how to apply is available from the U.S. Army Facilities Engineering

Support Agency, ATTN: Chief, Training Branch (FESA-NT), Fort Belvoir, VA 22060; telephone (703) 664-5241/5235 or AUTOVON 354-5235/5241, WATTS (800) 336-3095, Extension 5235 or 5241.

## RESERVE COMPONENT NOTES

### FIRST SERGEANT COURSE

Beginning last October, the USAR is now allocated spaces in the eight-week First Sergeant Course at the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss. Army Reserve unit first sergeants are urged to apply.

The course is designed to prepare senior NCOs to be first sergeants in companies, batteries, and troops, or units of similar size.

The instruction includes such subjects as unit administration, personnel actions, field operations, communications skills, and leadership.

USAR sergeants first class/platoon sergeants and master sergeants/first sergeants who are serving or expect to serve as troop program unit (TPU) first sergeants are eligible to apply. Applicants should be aware that if they are 39 years old or younger they can expect to take the Army Physical Readiness Test (APRT) during the course.

Applications must be submitted through command channels to the appropriate continental U.S. Armies (CONUSAs). DA Circular 351-82-2, dated 15 July 1982, has more information.

A point of contact at the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve is SGM Tom T. Toskin, telephone (202) 325-8480 or AUTOVON 221-8480.

SGM John J. Terranova is the USAR contact at the Sergeants Major Academy, telephone (915) 568-8123 or AUTOVON 879-8123.

### RESERVE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The Army has approved new criteria for the Selected Reserve Incentive Program, which pays bonuses for soldiers who enlist or reenlist in certain Reserve units or specialties.

Army Reserve reenlistment bonuses are now authorized by Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) instead of by Career Management Field (CMF). Unit eligibility for these bonuses has also changed to correspond to the Reserve Component Resource Priority List instead of to European deployment dates under full mobilization.

Designed to improve the enlisted strength and readiness of Reserve Component units, the incentive program awards enlistment bonuses of

up to \$2,000 or educational assistance of up to \$4,000 for a six-year enlistment in high-priority units or in selected skills. Reservists in these units or skills can earn up to \$1,800 in reenlistment bonuses too.

### CORRECTION ON SQT CHANGES

A note in the January-February 1983 issue of INFANTRY (page 42) stated that USAR unit members in skill levels 1 through 4 now have to take written SQTs annually during a three-month period. This is incorrect. Unit members are required to take written SQTs only once every two years and will have about six months in which to complete them.

In addition, that note stated that hands-on Common Task SQTs have to be given yearly to soldiers in the ranks of private through sergeant first class/platoon sergeant. These tests, too, will be required only every two years.

Commanders do have the option of requiring written SQTs and Common Task SQTs more frequently if they consider it appropriate.

