

ENLISTED CAREER NOTES



BRANCH CHIEF'S COMMENTS

Our soldiers are the Army, and the guts of our Army is the combined arms team led by the world's toughest, proudest, most competent NCOs. The Infantry noncommissioned officer in the United States Army has always had the reputation of being tough, proud, and competent. And the NCOs in the Infantry/Armor Branch Team in EPMD, MILPER-CEN, feel that they have an important part to play in making this happen through the professional development, worldwide assignment, and personal well-being of our fighting men and their NCO leaders.

The NCOs who are assigned to Infantry Branch are field-tested veterans who understand your needs, aspirations, problems, and complaints. They will do what is best for you while also seeing that the imperatives of the U.S. Army are accomplished. But you can make this process both easier and more efficient through your personal involvement in reviewing your own records periodically, telling us what you want to do, and letting us know about any special requirements you may have.

The next several years are going to be exciting and challenging for the Army's leadership — especially for combat NCO leaders. The M-series vehicles, the Regimental Affiliation System, and Division 86 will challenge all of us. These initiatives will directly affect unit cohesion, unit readiness, and combat capabilities. Consequently, personal and professional decisions during this dynamic transition will be particularly significant. Throughout this period, your professional development through assignments, schooling, specialized training, and promotions will be important to you and to the Army.

By working together we can ensure that your needs and the Army's needs are fully realized.

You have the high privilege and responsibility to lead our great soldiers, keep our small units robust, and deter the enemy by his knowledge of your thirst for victory. We at Infantry/Armor Branch salute you for your professionalism.

LTC GARY L. PAXTON

HAAP ASSIGNMENTS

Many questions are directed to the Infantry Branch concerning eligibility for the Homebase/Advanced Assignments Program (HAAP).

Under this program, enlisted soldiers in the ranks of SGT/SP5 through MSG/ISG who are assigned to go overseas on dependent-restricted 12-month short tours will be informed of their next assignments before leaving CONUS. When possible, these soldiers will be returned to their place of prior assignment. Members of Cohesion Operational Readiness and Training (COHORT) units under the New Manning System who are deployed overseas for unaccompanied 18-month long tours may voluntarily elect a homebase assignment. Advanced assignments to CONUS will also be given to members in those ranks who go from an overseas long tour to a dependent-restricted 12-month short tour.

A SP4 on a promotion list who receives assignment instructions and is promoted to SGT before departing from his present duty station will be given a HAAP assignment. But a SP4 on a promotion list who is not promoted until after he arrives in the short-tour area is not eligible for a HAAP assignment. Each soldier

should initiate a DA Form 2635 preference statement about 10 months before his scheduled Date Eligible to Return from Overseas (DEROS).

A soldier assigned to an accompanied tour area who voluntarily elects to serve a 12-month "all others" tour is not eligible for a HAAP assignment.

Hawaiian residents may be given HAAP assignments to Hawaii, but CONUS residents and residents outside the contiguous 48 states, less Hawaii, will not be involuntarily homebased in Hawaii.

Requests for changes in HAAP that are submitted by soldiers currently serving in short-tour areas will normally be disapproved, but exceptions to this policy will be reviewed individually when submitted to Infantry Branch.

Soldiers who already have HAAP assignments but elect to extend their foreign service tours will normally be reassigned to their original HAAP assignments provided there are valid requirements at the original locations of the approved HAAPs. In cases where there are no valid requirements at these locations, soldiers will be reassigned to locations in CONUS where valid requirements do exist.

Soldiers who are serving in dependent-restricted short-tour areas who are selected to attend the Sergeants Major Academy when they return to CONUS and who have previously been given HAAP assignment will no longer be eligible for that HAAP. However, if a soldier declines to attend, he will be reassigned to his originally approved HAAP upon returning to CONUS.

Soldiers who are qualified parachutists (SQI "P") will be provided HAAP assignments to installations that are authorized parachutists, except when the number of assign-

ments exceeds the number of requirements for parachute-qualified soldiers at the installation.

Infantry Branch will make every effort to honor all HAAP assignments, but sometimes may be unable to do so because of the needs of the Army.

CEREMONIAL DUTY

The 3d United States Infantry (The Old Guard) is continually looking for qualified soldiers to serve as members of the Army's official ceremonial unit. Stationed at Fort Myer, Virginia, the Old Guard has a proud heritage that predates and parallels that of our constitution. The 3d Infantry, established in 1784, is the oldest active unit in the U.S. Army.

The Old Guard provides security for the nation's capital in times of civil disturbance or national emergency, and it is also responsible for conducting all military ceremonies in the Washington, D.C., area. Old Guardsmen must also be prepared to perform regular Infantry unit missions and therefore routinely undergo individual and unit tactical training.

The Old Guard has many specialty units — The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, sentinels at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Caisson Platoon, the Continental Color Guard, the U.S. Army Drill Team, and the Command-in-Chief's Guard, for example — which are well known and highly publicized throughout the free world.

Being a member of a prestigious unit such as the Old Guard is an honor, and not everyone can qualify. A soldier who wants to become a member must meet the standards outlined in Table 8-4, AR 614-200, must have a high school diploma or a GED equivalent, and must have a GT score of 100 or better. He must also have a record of performance and conduct that indicates a good potential for duty in positions that may require exposure to the President of the United States, heads of state, and local and foreign dignitaries.

Applications are now being considered from active duty soldiers in the ranks of SGT(P), SGT, and SSG in MOS 11B for assignment.

Anyone who wants further information may call The Old Guard's recruiting team at AUTOVON 222-2731/32 or commercial (202) 692-2730/31/32, or write to Commander, 3d U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard), ATTN: ANOG-REC, Fort Myer, Virginia 22211.

NEW TRAINING COURSE (03C)

The Soldier Physical Fitness Center at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, recently began offering a seven-week training course for soldiers in MOS 03C (Physical Activities Specialist).

The course is designed to give 03C soldiers the skills they need to advise other soldiers and commanders on their exercise and sports programs and to assist more effectively in the management of recreational facilities.

This is the first time a formal training course has been offered to 03C soldiers. Plans for the future include the development of advanced individual training and schooling under the NCO Education System.

The new program of instruction includes training in physical conditioning and testing, diet and nutrition, weight control, physiology, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, weight training, injury prevention, exercise prescription, and recreation management.

In addition, mental and physical profile standards for entry and retention in MOS 03C have been set at a Skills Technical Test Score of at least 105. Each holder of this MOS also must have a physical profile of all "ones" except for vision, which may be profiled at "two." If a soldier fails to meet the revised aptitude area score but otherwise qualifies, a waiver may be granted by appropriate reclassification authority. (Change 19 to AR 611-201, effective 1 March 1983, includes these changes.)

All soldiers with primary MOS 03C who meet the revised standards will

be required to attend formal training at the Soldier Physical Fitness Center before 1 October 1984. MILPER-CEN is now screening the records of all soldiers who have 03C as a primary specialty to determine those who meet these standards. Those who do not should take action immediately to verify their physical profiles and revalidate their ST scores.

Military personnel officers are being asked to act immediately to upgrade the physical profiles and revised ST scores of soldiers in this MOS once verification of profiles and test scores are obtained.

For more information about the training course and new mental and physical standards, anyone who is interested may contact MSG Mosley, HQDA (DAPE-MRD-RT), at AUTOVON 225-7485.

CLUB MANAGEMENT

The Army is looking for soldiers in the ranks of SGT/SP5 to SFC/PSG to fill current openings in the club management career program.

To qualify, an NCO must have less than 16 years of service and must have previous experience in food service, business administration, or financial management.

Soldiers who are accepted for the program will receive on-the-job training in club manager positions before attending the nine-week Club Management Course at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana.

Soldiers who are interested in the program should talk with their local military personnel officers and comply with the procedures given in Chapter 7, Change 1, Section VIII of AR 614-200.

