ENLISTED CAREER NOTES

PD NCOs CAN HELP

In the September-October 1984 issue of INFANTRY, Infantry Branch suggested several ways you can improve your chances of being selected by a DA centralized board for promotion or schooling. If you have already done these things and still have not been selected, you may discuss the possible reasons with your Professional Development NCO (PD NCO) in the Infantry Branch. You may write a personal letter directly to him, or you may call him. Either way, your questions will be answered within 30 days after they arrive at MILPERCEN.

Make sure your inquiry includes your full name, rank, MOS, and complete social security number. The PD NCO can evaluate your case even faster if you also mail a current copy of your DA Forms 2A and 2-1 directly to him.

When he receives your query, he will order a current copy of your Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) from Fort Benjamin Harrison. When it arrives, he will carefully examine it for any derogatory information that may have kept you from being selected, and he will check to see if any information that may have influenced the board's decision is missing.

The PD NCO's evaluation will not be based upon the OMPF alone; he will also examine your DA Forms 2A and 2-1 and other assignment or schooling history that is recorded in the Career Management Individual File (CMIF) at the Infantry Branch. By looking carefully at these documents, he can get a fairly accurate picture of your potential for further schooling or promotion and possibly of the reason you were not selected for promotion.

Please keep in mind that the decisions of the promotion board are final and that all records of their deliberations are destroyed upon approval of their recommendations. All the PD NCO can do is to give you his opinion regarding the reasons you were not selected. But at the same time he can offer some suggestions that may improve your eligibility and competitiveness for the next board.

You may write to your PD NCO, as listed below, at DA MILPERCEN, ATTN: DAPC-EPK-I (PD NCO's name), 2461 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22331-0413. Or you may call him.

		AUTOVON 221- or (202) 325-
SFC Paulk	SGT/SSG 11B/11M	8059/9399
SFC Draughn	SGT-SFC/PSG 11C/11H	9517/9543
SFC Henson	SFC/PSG 11B/11M	8056/8057/8058
SFC Baker	MSG/1SG 11B	8056/8057/8058

IRR BONUS PROGRAM

Certain U.S. Army Reserve soldiers who have combat or combat support skills may now receive $750 in bonus money for adding three years to their individual ready reserve (IRR) obligations.

The Army's new IRR Bonus Program, now in effect, is designed to eliminate shortages in the number of combat and combat support soldiers available for mobilization in the event of a national emergency.

Under the provisions of the program:

- Soldiers, to be eligible, must have less than 11 years of total service and must hold a combat or combat support skill designated by the Army as qualifying for the bonus.
- The bonus is paid in installments.
- Those who get the bonuses must agree to keep the Army informed of their whereabouts and of their physical condition, marital status, and other such data.
- Extensions will be offered to eligible members.
- The soldiers may later transfer to Reserve unit positions and volunteer for training without forfeiting their bonuses.

Soldiers who are interested may obtain more information from the Army Reserve Personnel Center at St. Louis; or they may call 1-800-323-1869.

CONSTRUCTION DIVERS

Soldiers who are interested in serving as Army construction divers now have a chance to apply for the MOS. Construction divers provide surface-supplied (hard-hat) and scuba diving in support of port construction, rehabilitation and construction of submarine petroleum pipelines, vessel maintenance, and salvage operations.

Applicants must meet a number of requirements ranging from physical and mental tests to age and length of service. A list of personnel requirements is available from USA MILPERCEN, ATTN: DAPC-EPL-E, 2461 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22331; medical requirements from the Surgeon General, HQDA, ATTN: DASC-PSP, Washington, DC 20315.