

INFANTRY CAREER NOTES



DEFENSE ATTACHE ASSIGNMENTS

The Defense Attache System (DAS) is recruiting only the best qualified NCOs who seek Joint Service Staff assignments in American Embassies in more than 80 locations around the world. Selected NCOs in the ranks of sergeant through platoon sergeant are given an opportunity to represent the U.S. Army and the Defense Intelligence Agency while serving in diplomatic assignments in Europe, Africa, the Far East, the Middle East, and North, Central, and South America.

To be selected, an NCO must be on active duty, qualify for a Top Secret security clearance, have a General Technical (GT) score of 115 or higher, a clerical score of 120 or higher, a typing score of 40 words per minute or higher, and must be familiar with the latest personal computer word processors. He must also test 100 or higher on the Defense Language Aptitude Battery (DLAB). All family members must be U.S. citizens and meet the medical standards of the country of assignment.

Prerequisites, application procedures, and countries available in the program are in Army Regulation 611-60. For additional information, contact SFC Gale at DSN 923-2134, or commercial (410) 677-1240, extension 2633.

U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Each year, approximately 200 Regular Army soldiers are offered admission to the United States Military Academy (USMA), at West Point, New York, or the USMA Preparatory School, at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. Although some soldiers are offered direct admission to USMA, most attend the preparatory school first.

IOAC CLASS SCHEDULE FY 1997

CLASS	START DATE	END DATE
1/97	08 DEC 97	14 MAY 97
2/97	23 MAR 97	12 AUG 97
3/97	08 JUN 97	28 OCT 97
4/97	14 SEP 97	20 FEB 98

The preparatory school provides the academic, military, and physical instruction to qualify soldiers for admission to and graduation from USMA, along with commissioning as U.S. Army second lieutenants. The curriculum prepares soldiers for success through an intensive curriculum focused on both English and mathematics.

To qualify for admission, a soldier must be a U.S. citizen, a high school graduate, unmarried with no legal obligation to support dependents, under 23 years of age on 1 July of the year he or she enters USMA (under 22 on 1 July of the year entering the preparatory school), and of high moral character with a sincere interest in attending USMA and becoming an Army officer.

This is an excellent opportunity for any soldier who wants a first-rate college education and a commission. Especially encouraged to apply are soldiers who meet the basic eligibility requirements, have achieved Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) scores greater than 1050 or American College Test (ACT) composite scores of 23 or higher, and good grades in a college-preparatory high school curriculum.

All application requirements must be met by 1 April 1997 to be considered for an appointment to USMA or the preparatory school in July 1997. Interested soldiers should call CPT Brandon at DSN 688-5780 or commercial (914) 938-5780.

INSTRUCTOR JOBS IN THE 108TH DIVISION

The 108th Division (Institutional

Training) has immediate openings for more than 400 U.S. Army Reserve senior noncommissioned officers to serve as instructors at locations in the southeastern United States.

This is an excellent opportunity for soldiers who are thinking about leaving active duty and looking for a way to continue their careers in the Army Reserve.

Instructors are needed to teach other Army Reservists and members of the Army National Guard a variety of military occupational specialties (MOSs) one weekend a month and two weeks a year. Openings exist for staff sergeants, sergeants first class, and master sergeants at locations in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

Soldiers assigned to Army Reserve or National Guard troop program units are required to maintain proficiency and education in their MOSs. From time to time, these soldiers must return to a classroom environment for additional skill training. Nearly all of this formal individual skill training is taught by institutional training divisions such as the 108th. The division has four school brigades that offer specialized MOS-specific training at numerous locations throughout its area of responsibility.

The ever-changing needs of the Army and recent reorganizations of units have created a new demand for instructors to train reclassified soldiers in new skills for tomorrow's Army.

Immediate openings are available for senior noncommissioned officers who are qualified in the administrative and personnel specialties as well as the supply, medical, signal, military police, and transportation fields.

Some MOSs have specific instructor requirements set up by the resident active component school. For example, many medical instructors must meet special residency, licensing, and previous military or civilian employment require-

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ments before they can be assigned to instructor positions.

Interested soldiers should contact their local Army Reserve Component career counselor or call (704) 342-5106 with any questions about these vacancies. Questions concerning specific requirements for medical instructors should be directed to Headquarters, Health Services Brigade, at (904) 765-7673.

ROPMA TAKES EFFECT 1 OCTOBER 1996

The first major change in reserve officer management since 1954 takes effect on 1 October 1996, with the implementation of the Reserve Officer Personnel Management Act (ROPMA).

Applicable to all services, ROPMA will revise and modernize reserve component officer statutes, updating and standardizing provisions of law that affect the appointment, promotion, retention, separation, and retirement of Reserve commissioned officers. ROPMA does not apply to warrant officers.

ROPMA's purpose is to standardize reserve officer personnel management and to align the reserve component system with that of the active component. It will:

- Eliminate mandatory time-in-grade (TIG) requirements for promotion. (Instead, it sets minimum and maximum TIG for each rank, with date of rank falling in between. Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) promotions will continue at maximum TIG.)
- Eliminate mandatory time-in-service requirements for promotions.
- Provide a below-the-zone promotion option, based on the needs of the service, for captains, majors, and lieutenant colonels.
- Promote officers on the basis of "best qualified" standards rather than "fully qualified."
- Eliminate the TIG extension past 30 years commissioned service for colonels,

unless waived by the service secretary for the "needs of the service." (In essence, colonels must leave after 30 years of service or age 60, whichever comes first. Previously, colonels could serve five years TIG before reaching the normal 30-year cap.)

- Allow officers to delay a promotion upon selection. For the Army Reserve, that delay can be up to one year. It is not applicable for Active Guard/Reserve (AGR) officers.

- Establish a Reserve Active Status List (RASL), by order of seniority, for each service. The Army's list will be made up of Army Reserve and National Guard officers in an active status, including AGR, TPU (Troop Program Unit), IMA (Individual Mobilization Augmentee), and IRR, but will not include Reserve officers on the Active Duty List or those in inactive duty status.

- Retain officers on the RASL for up to two years after mobilization.

- Allow any eligible officer on the

RASL to apply for a position vacancy promotion (an option previously open only to TPU officers in the next lower grade).

Several provisions of ROPMA went into effect earlier:

- Extension of the mandatory removal date (MRD) for *promotable* lieutenant colonels from 28 to 30 years of commissioned service, or age 60, whichever comes first.

- An MRD of 28 commissioned years of service (or age 60) for captains, majors, and lieutenant colonels (not promotable), regardless of age when commissioned.

- Requirements for National Guard officers transferring to the Army Reserve to do so at their current rank, not the highest USAR grade held.

- Requirement for a bachelor's degree for promotion to captain.

- A "chain teaching" program on ROPMA, which is now under way throughout the U.S. Army Reserve.

SENIOR OFFICER LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT COURSE

The Senior Officer Logistics Management Course (SOLMC) is specifically designed to provide an update for battalion and brigade commanders, primary staff officers, and Department of the Army civilians working in the logistics field.

The course covers maintenance, supply, readiness, and transportation and provides hands-on experience with vehicles, the unit level logistics computer, weapons, ammunition, medical, communications, NBC, missile, and quartermaster equipment.

The course is open to officers of all branches in the rank of major or above, from Active Army, U.S. Army Reserve, and Army National Guard components, the U.S. Marine Corps, and allied nations. Department of the Army civilians in the rank of GS-11 or higher are also eligible to enroll.

The one-week course is conducted 12 times each fiscal year at Fort Knox. Class quotas may be obtained through normal U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command channels. Any problems in obtaining class quotas or information about the course should be directed to the SOLMC Branch Chief at DSN 464-8152/3411 or commercial (502) 624-8152/3411. Class schedules for Fiscal Year 1997 are shown below:

SOLMC SCHEDULE

CLASS NUMBER	CLASS DATES
97-01	18-22 NOV 96
97-02	27-31 JAN 97
97-03	24-28 FEB 97
97-04	17-21 MAR 97
97-05	14-18 APR 97
97-06	12-16 MAY 97
97-07	16-20 JUN 97
97-08	21-25 JUL 97
97-09	18-22 AUG 97
97-10	15-19 SEP 97