



The Rally Point

The official newsletter of the California Army National Guard

Volume 1, Issue 7

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Special points of interest:

- The Army Guard is on Facebook. Check us out at www.facebook.com/caarmyguard.
- This newsletter can be seen online here: <http://www.calguard.ca.gov/army/Pages/armynewsletter.aspx>

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Quality Soldiers, not broken

I recently had the privilege of representing The Adjutant General at the State Veterans' Conference.

I followed one of our very well meaning political leaders, who told the assembled crowd that he believed all service members who serve in combat come back with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

PTSD is a very real challenge faced by many of our Soldiers. However, this is not a disorder that we can allow ourselves to define us.

The United States of America has the most professional Army in the world.

Our Soldiers are second to none in discipline, professionalism, and initiative. The Army produces the most loyal, courageous, take charge individuals that can be found in American Society today.

Soldiers of the United States Army are trained and tested leaders, capable of handling the most intense pressures imaginable; are flexible enough to adjust and react to problems rapidly; have an unparalleled attention to detail and quality; and have the drive to take on any challenge placed in front of them with a positive attitude. Few institutions create and reinforce character like the Army.

Having served in a combat environment does not generally detract from these qualities. In most cases, it builds character and hones qualities that add to our ability to contribute to society in a variety of ways.

News article after news article discuss PTSD and traumatic brain injury (TBI), in ways that suggest we are "damaged goods" when we return from theater.

These articles and stories sometimes create the sense that a Soldier is somehow a liability or "defective." It gives a sense of how veterans should be pitied and also how care should be taken when thinking about hiring one.

Nothing could be more further from the truth.

Serving in a combat zone generally enhances all of the qualities stated above; not detracts from them.

Certainly our returning Soldiers have challenges that need to be addressed, including TBI and PTSD.

However, most Soldiers gain experience that will help them confront any obstacle they face in the future.

These are the same qualities that civilian employers are or should be looking for in their employees. This is the message I brought to the assembled veterans at their state conference.

The California National Guard has initiated the "Work for Warriors (W4W) Employment Initiative," and is finding roughly one service member a day full time employment.

I am tasking all leaders to get this information to their Soldiers, especially ones looking for employment. You can find information about the W4W on our Facebook page



BG Donald Currier
California Army National Guard Commander

(www.facebook.com/CAARMYGUARD).

I know it doesn't seem like much now, one service member a day, but imagine how this initiative will grow when the stigma of hiring veterans is finally laid to rest.

This can only be done by trumpeting those qualities that make the Soldier stand apart and above other members of our society who are also seeking employment.

We need to let employers know that hiring a veteran will be the best hiring decision they could have possibly made.

A recent study on employing veterans reinforces my messages.

I ask that you reinforce the same message with your employer and with the civilians you know that don't understand the benefits of military service and combat experience.

You can read the survey yourself at www.cnas.org/employingamericasveterans.



CSM Harold London
California Army
National Guard
Command Sergeant
Major

Summertime safety with motorcycles

Safety is always top priority, so I want to stress the importance of maintaining the highest level of safety in all that you do.

Summertime comes with its own set of safety concerns—namely heat injuries and dehydration.

The main way to beat the heat is by drinking water. It may sound easy, but most people simply are not doing it.

Ensure you and your Soldiers are drinking water before you

get thirsty. Also, caffeinated drinks dehydrate. Keep those to a minimum.

For all those Soldiers who enjoy the recreational sport of motorcycle riding, then the article below is for you.

I am a rider and the safety advocate for our Soldiers and the CAARNG Motorcycle Safety Program.

I was told when I first started riding that it is not “if” you will have an accident within the first

500 miles it is “when.”

I ask all of you to read the following article intently and if you are following all of the guidance below, then I thank you.

Plus, if you will help me to inform all of our motorcycle riding Soldiers about this program and its safeguards, then we just might save some lives.

Have a great riding season this summer. “Live to Ride and Ride to Live,” HOOAH!

Army, National Guard motorcycle rider requirements

If you are a member of the California Army National Guard or a Department of Defense civilian employee and are a motorcycle owner, or are thinking of purchasing a motorcycle, the State Ground Safety Office will help you meet your requirements under Army Regulation 385-10 and National Guard Regulation 385-10, and make you a safer rider.

When you consider statistics regarding motorcycle accidents historically, it is quite clear why both Department of the Army and National Guard Bureau place a high priority on motorcycle training and use of appropriate personal protective equipment for their service members. Sadly, we have lost Soldiers from our own formations as a result of motorcycle accidents.

Here are some important statistics to consider regarding motorcycle accidents:

California Department of Transportation data for 2004 through 2008 showed that speed contributed to almost 40% of all motorcycle accidents. Alcohol contributed to 25% of all motorcycle accidents and if you combined the rider at fault with speed issues, they contributed to 47%.

Active Duty statistics for QTR 1-3 FY12:

67 total motorcycle accidents with 13 resulting in fatalities and 39 with work time loss/injury.

QTR 1-3 FY11:

156 total motorcycle accidents with 21 resulting in fatalities and 124 with work time loss/injury.

QTR 1-3 FY10:

155 total motorcycle accidents with 18 resulting in fatalities and 137 in work time loss/injury.



CAARNG statistics for QTR 1-3 FY12:

11 total motorcycle accidents with 3 resulting in fatalities and the remainder as work-time loss/injury.

QTR 1-3 FY11: 10 total motorcycle accidents with 1 resulting in a fatality and the remainder as work-time loss/injury.

QTR 1-3 FY10: 5 total motorcycle accidents with 1 resulting in a fatality and the remainder as work-time loss/injury.

Not only have our number of motorcycle accident cases risen over the past three years in the CAARNG, statistics also show that up to 75% of the time our riders are being struck by a civilian vehicle with no fault to the rider. In the remaining 25% of motorcycle accidents, many riders were not paying attention to their surroundings or were exceeding safe speed limits. Active Duty motorcycle accidents are on the decline, in part due to a more stringent motorcycle safety program and locally available resources for training riders.

Fortunately, the California Army National Guard Ground Safety Office is authorized to fund up to \$250 for the Basic Riders course and \$100 for the Experienced/Advanced rider's course for all our Soldiers and qualified DoD civilians.

The basic course is not only fun, it will also teach street strategies to avoid trouble and how to maneuver a motorcycle in tough situations.

Currently, Sport bike and Cruiser bike training is required for those that qualify but a dollar limit has yet to be posted by Department of the Army and National Guard Bureau. Once these amounts are set, attendance at courses through our funding will be on a first come first serve basis, provided lesser trained riders are not in need of the available funds.

See Motorcycle on Page 7



Resilience Corner - MRTs

SFC Ross Wood

MRTs are Soldiers and Department of the Army Civilians who are graduates of the 10-day Master Resilience Trainer Course (MRT-C) taught at University of Pennsylvania, Victory University (Ft. Jackson, SC), GRU (Ft. McCoy, WI) or by the Mobile Training Team (MTT).

The unit MRT must complete 80 hours of resident-based Resilience Training at the MRT-C. Three core training concepts are addressed: Building Resilience (Days 1-8); Sustaining Resilience (Day 9); Enhancing Performance (Day 10).

Upon graduation, the MRT will be able to explore in depth the individual Core Competencies, delving into Self Awareness where they will identify thoughts, emotions and behaviors. Leading on to Self Regulation, where skills are introduced that will help in the regulation of impulses, emotions and behaviors to support achievement of goals. Then moving into Optimism, where the appreciation of hunting the good stuff will deal with realism, hope and understanding what is controllable in one's life.

Forging ahead into Mental Agility, the MRT will introduce

skills to improve flexible thinking and identifying and understanding problems. Next, Strengths of Character will uncover your top strengths and how to utilize them to overcome challenges and meet goals.

Lastly, Connection will unveil ways to improve upon relationships and explore positive and effective communication.

Upon completion of the MRT-C, an MRT is equipped with skills necessary to provide blocks of instruction to small groups and instill resilience building within their organization.

These skills can provide Commanders with the means to address and offset certain performance or behavioral shortcomings within the unit (biases, prevalent negativity, etc), while also injecting performance enhancement techniques (goal setting, energy management, etc.) into existing and planned unit training events. Utilizing these skills, the MRT will develop a cohesive support team of Resilience Training Assistants (RTAs) to assist in the integration of the Core Competencies into the organization. Further guidance/information can be found at csf.army.mil/.

California Army National Guard social media push - Like us!

Did you know the California Army National Guard is now on Facebook? It's been out for a couple of months now, but still needs to catch fire with the Soldiers of the CAARNG. Go to www.facebook.com/CAARMYGUARD and hit "like."

Do you have a comment on how we're doing or things you would like to see? Would you like to write an article about your unit; post a link others should know

about; or have a picture you would like posted to our Facebook Page? Message us on the page or e-mail us at:

ca-mua.armydiv.ngca@ng.army.mil.

The purpose of the page is to put out important (unclassified) information about what's going on in the Army, the Army National Guard, and the World. It's an "Army" centered place for our Soldiers and Families to go, post pictures, stay in contact, and see what's happening in the

California Army National Guard.

The CAARNG Facebook Team strives to keep the page current posting job articles, discounts, and other Soldier specific benefits that you might not know you're entitled to.

It's an all encompassing way for us to stay connected as a Guard, no matter if you live in the barrans of Death Valley or by the cliffs of Fort Bragg.

SGT (P) Joe Snuffy

When is it acceptable to use the promotable (P) in military writing

We have all seen it; the distinct (P) next to someone's name when they have been chosen for promotion, but are waiting for orders to come through. However, what does RIGHT look like?

Army Regulation 25-50 states simply that you "do not use the (P) (meaning that the signer is promotable) as part of a signature block on Army correspondence unless it benefits or enhances the image of the Army. However, it may be used in an address for such things as congratulatory notes."

Simply using the (P) to enhance your own image in the eyes of those who are to read the memorandum or letter goes against the intent. The (P) wasn't designed as a tool to rub your ego, it was designed to identify those officers and noncommissioned officers who are on their way to a higher level.

In addition to this, per Army Regulation 623-3, there are two additional criteria that must be met before a person can use the

coveted (P) next to their names on OERs, NCOERs, and official memorandums.

First, you must have been selected for promotion. Second, you must be assigned (not just serving) in a position authorized the higher grade.

There is a caveat for us in the National Guard, however. Per PPOM 12-031, ARNG-HRH, memorandum dated March 21, 2012, "The ARNG does not recognize a 'promotable' status for enlisted Soldiers."

For additional information on where and when to use the (P), we encourage you to check out the references below so you too can know what RIGHT looks like.

References: AR 623-3, Evaluation Reporting System; DA PAM 623-3, Evaluation Reporting System; AR 25-50, Preparing and Managing Correspondence



JAG: On the record

Disciplinary Action

RANK	UNIT	Description of Charge	Result
LTC	MED DET	Inappropriate social contact, via text with a subordinate.	GOMOR
SPC	79 IBCT	Failure to obey a lawful order to NOT contact (former) spouse.	ART 15; reduced to PFC, forfeiture of \$447.09, extra duty & restriction for 14 days, suspended 1 mo.
PV2	79 IBCT	Failure to report to first formation & failure to report to guard duty.	ART 15; reduced to PVT, forfeiture of \$250, extra duty & restriction for 4 days
SSG	79 IBCT	Unsatisfactory participant.	Reduced to SGT
SSG	79 IBCT	Unsatisfactory participant.	Reduced to SGT
SSG	224 SB	Forging NCOERs.	ART 15; reduced to SGT, suspended for 6 mo.
SGT	224 SB	Unsatisfactory participant.	Reduced to SPC
SFC	115 RSG	Inappropriate contact with a subordinate.	GOMOR
SGT	40 ID	Failure to Report for Duty (Drill) & Missing Movement.	Reduced to SPC
SPC	40 ID	Failure to Report for Duty (missed formation) & Missing Movement.	ART 15; reduced to PFC, forfeiture of \$462, suspended for 6 mo.

Disclaimer: When determining a punishment, commanders take into account a number of factors including the rank, the severity of violation, the service record, as well as the character of the individual. This independent consideration of each case explains why two individuals of the same rank, who commit the same infraction, may not receive the same punishment. In addition, according to the California Military and Veterans Code and the UCMJ, punishment pursuant to an Article 15 (known as non-judicial punishment (NJP), can vary for similar misconduct by enlisted or officers. A Soldier who receives NJP could be reduced up to two grades, have a fine imposed, be assigned extra duty, and/or have a letter of reprimand placed in their record. This range of punishment is focused on maintaining good order and discipline. NJP rarely ends an enlisted person's career. In fact, a Soldier who has been reduced through UCMJ can rehabilitate them self and return to their previous rank. NJP only slows down the career advancement of a Soldier/NCO. Comparatively, when an officer receives NJP the maximum punishment authorized by law, even for the CDR CAARNG, is a fine and/or to have a letter of reprimand filed in their record. This range of punishment is focused on determining whether the officer is suitable for continued service. While NJP for officers does not have the immediate impact of an enlisted rank reduction, it can, in most cases, prevent any further career advancement. NJP (or a permanently filed General Officer Letter of Reprimand) generally stops the career advancement of an officer.



WORK FOR WARRIORS

HELPING CALIFORNIA'S HEROES GET HIRED

The California National Guard launched the Work for Warriors (W4W) program back in March. Since then, more than 600 unemployed CNG members have reached out to MAJ Ty Shepard's team and they have assisted in writing more than 300 resumes to assist Guard members in finding suitable employment.

The good news is the CNG is placing a service member a day into fulltime jobs at companies like JP Morgan Chase, Google,

CalGuard job initiative

Granite Construction, SAIC, Twitter, Ebay, Gordan Biersch, Sleep Train, Safeway and the California Conversation Corps.

The program is gaining significant traction at the Capital and across the private sector.

That said, recent studies and surveys indicate the CNG is only scratching the surface of our organization's unemployment challenge -- a challenge the directly affects unit readiness.

Please ensure you advise your command teams that this program is available and that it is delivering jobs to Soldiers.

The CAARNG team encourages you to click on the link below and view the sample public service announcement developed jointly between the CNG and the State Legislature. It is expected that this PSA, and others featuring different legislators to begin running very soon.

"Cal Guard Work for Warriors (W4W)"

Office Number: 916.854.4426

E-mail: ngcajobs@ng.army.mil

Website: <http://www.calguard.ca.gov/EIP/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CalGuardWorkForWarriors

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?>

Promotions

Uname	NAME_IND	GR_ABBR_CODE	DOR_RES
HHC 49TH MP BDE	SOBECKIENGLE JESSAMYN PEARL	SFC	120607
CP ROBERTS MNVR TNG CTR (-)	GRAY DEANNA MARIE	SSG	120612
JFHQ-CA (-)	WHITTED LAUREN MARY	SSG	120603
TRP B 1/18TH CAV	VELASQUEZ ALEX MANUEL	SSG	120622
HHT 1/18TH CAV	BRADLEY SHAWN PATRICK	SGT	120601
DET 1 HHC 1-185TH AR BN	SEALS MATTHEW SCOTT	SGT	120614
HHC 79TH SPC TRPS BN	VINGOE JAMES MICHAEL	SSG	120614
CO C 79TH STB (SIG)	BELTRAN ANDREW	SGT	120605
HSC (-) 40TH INF DIV	MORALESNEGRETE MARIA G	SGT	120602
CO D, CA ARNG RRB	HURTH BRIDGETTE JEANETTE	SSG	120627

Retirements

Uname	NAME_IND	GR_ABBR_CODE	DATE_ASG_LOSS_RSN
CO A (-) 340TH BSB	RITCHEY ROSCOE ALFRED III	1SG	120613
11TH FSC (11TH ACR) FIRES BN	TARANGO MIKE JR	SFC	120615

Request for Presidential Letter of Appreciation

Did you know that Soldiers who are retiring with 30 or more years of creditable service can receive a Presidential Letter of Appreciation (RPLOA)?

Well, it's true, though there are several steps you have to take in order to receive this letter.

Criteria:

- Soldiers with 30 or more years of creditable service for retired pay
- Recipients of Medal of Honor, upon retirement
- Former Prisoners of War (POW), upon retirement, who qualified for or have been awarded the POW Medal

Required Documents:

- Memorandum from command requesting PLOA. Memorandum must state the reason for the request (i.e. 30 years, Medal of Honor Recipient, Former POW).
- NGB Form 23B
- Retirement orders

Timeline Requirements:

For those service members who have met the criteria and would like to receive the RPLOA, it must be done NO earlier than 90 days prior to the last day of active duty or, if the letter is to be presented before the retirement date or the start of transition leave, 90 days prior to the scheduled retirement ceremony date.

This cannot be done more than 40 days after the retirement date, if not done in advance.

NOTE: The Office of the President requires strict adherence to the applicable timelines.

This information can be found online. Go to glARNG.army.pentagon.mil.

Submit required documents to: mua.armydiv.ngca@ng.army.mil.

Reference: DoDI 1348.34



Post 9/11 GI Bill - Transfer of Education Benefit (TEB)

TEB must be done **BEFORE** you retire or separate!!

MAJ Jeanette Stuart, Education Services Officer

The ability to transfer your education benefits is a choice you can make, but know that the transfer does now come with certain requirements.

The Post 9/11 G.I. Bill Transfer of Education Benefit (TEB) **MUST** be accomplished prior to separation or retirement.

Beginning Aug. 2, 2013, **EVERYONE**

will incur a four-year obligation if they choose the TEB.

The service obligation begins on the date the TEB is initiated.

Access TEB through eBenefits at www.ebenefits.va.gov/ or www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/ (log-in, click on "Education," click on "Transfer of Education Benefits").

This decision should be thought through carefully and discussed with your unit or G.I. Bill manager.

Ensure that you have enough time left in service or are willing to stay longer to meet the requirements of the transfer you are about to make.

Read and understand before checking these lines!

Populate this line with your dependent information. Then, select the number of months you want to assign to each dependent.

Select the educational program from which to transfer benefits:

Post-9/11 GI Bill, Chapter 33

Relation	Name	Birth Date	Months	Begin Date	End Date	Revoke	Revoke Date
No Records Found.							

* If there are any questions regarding your family members, please contact your service personnel center.
 * To determine your remaining months of entitlement, contact The Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-888-GI-BILL-1 (1-888-442-4551) to speak with a Veterans Benefits Counselor or visit their website at <http://www.gbill.va.gov/>

Transferability of Education Benefits Acknowledgements:

a) I am eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, the program I am applying to transfer.

b) I understand I may transfer up to 36 months (or my remaining months of eligibility, whichever is less) of my education benefits to spouse and/or children, and can modify or revoke my election at any time.

c) I understand that my spouse may use the benefit immediately and children (ages 18-26) after I have served 10 years.

d) I understand and agree to remain in the Armed Forces for the period required. I understand that failure to complete that service may lead to an overpayment by the Department of Veterans Affairs (documentation will remain on file with the Service).

e) I understand that I am responsible for any overpayments due to not completing my additional obligated term of service agreement.

f) I understand that in order to request this transfer, if I'm eligible for the MGIB (Chapter 30, 38 USC), or the MGIB-SR (Chapter 1606, 10 USC) or REAP (Chapter 1607, 10 USC), I am converting from that program to the Post-9/11 GI Bill. This conversion is irrevocable.

g) I may not receive more than a total of 48 months of benefits under two or more programs.

h) If electing Chapter 33 in lieu of Chapter 30, my months of entitlement under Chapter 33 will be limited to the number of months of entitlement remaining under Chapter 30 on the effective date of my Chapter 33 election. If I exhaust my entitlement remaining under Chapter 30 before the effective date of my Chapter 33 election, I may receive up to 12 additional months of benefits under Chapter 33.

i) My conversion to the Post-9/11 GI Bill is irrevocable and may not be changed. However, I retain the right to change or modify months of entitlement at any time until they are exhausted.

* If you have questions about your eligibility for the Post-9/11 GI Bill or to determine your remaining months of entitlement, contact The Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-888-GI-BILL-1 (1-888-442-4551) to speak with a Veterans Benefits Counselor or visit their website at <http://www.gbill.va.gov/>.
 * Do not call the Department of Veterans Affairs with questions about your eligibility for Transferability of Education Benefits (TEB). General policies for TEB are available at http://www.defenselink.mil/home/features/2009/0409_gbill/.
 * For specific questions on your eligibility for TEB, please call your Service career counselor or personnel center. After your request is approved, your family member should apply to the Department of Veterans Affairs electronically <http://www.dva.gov> by completing a VA Form 22-1990E. A paper form is available at <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-22-1990e-ARE.pdf>

REMEMBER.....

When you apply for the TEB, your service obligation clock starts ticking. Beginning Aug. 2, 2013, **everyone** will incur a four-year obligation when they make TEB, regardless of time in service.

For more information, check with your unit or G.I. Bill manager **before** you make this transfer!

Unit Spotlight: 244th Sustainment Brigade



The distinguished history of the 224th Sustainment Brigade "Dragonslayers" began in December 1941 when Company A, 640th Tank Destroyer Battalion was activated in Camp San Luis Obispo for World War II.

The unit served in Luzon, the Bismarck Archipelago, and Southern Philippines where it received the Army Presidential Unit Citation and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation.

It was re-designated as the 140th Tank Battalion in 1950 and ordered into Federal Service for the Korean War where it received the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation.

Following numerous organizational changes, the unit became the 40th Division Support Command in 1974 and served in the Los Angeles Riots.

The Command mobilized hundreds of Soldiers during the early years of the Global War on Terror to Iraq, Bosnia, Kosovo, Guantanamo Bay as well as other continental United States locations.

The HQ was mobilized again in June 2005 as the 40th Corps Support Group in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and converted to the 224th Sustainment Brigade upon its return. Most recently the unit was mobilized in March 2010 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn where it earned the Meritorious Unit Citation.

The 224th Sustainment Brigade's mission is to plan, coordinate, control, synchronize, and execute theater opening, distribution, and sustainment operations for State and Federal authorities.

It is organized with its headquarters in Long Beach, Special Troops Battalion in Pomona, the 578th Engineer Battalion in Manhattan Beach and the 746th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion in Van Nuys.

The command is made up of over 2,000 Soldiers in 17 subordinate units stretching from Fresno to National City, and will be gaining over 500 additional Soldiers when the I-144 FA BN comes under its mission command in September.

It provides the State of California and the Army with bulk fuel, medium cargo and heavy equipment transportation capability; finance support, tactical satellite network and communication capability; and combat engineers, and vertical construction capability.

The 224th Sustainment Brigade provides its Soldiers with a variety of training opportunities. Most recently, Dragonslayers provided white cell support to the 79th IBCT at the National Training Center and conducted rigorous drivers training programs on systems ranging from HMMWVs, busses, MTVs and HETs.

They have also participated in exercises across the nation and around the world

including Talisman Saber in Australia, Diamond Saber at Ft. McCoy, Wisconsin, and Operation Panther Strike at Camp Williams, Utah. Additionally, Dragonslayers have been instrumental in the renovation of barracks, buildings and training areas at Camp Roberts, gaining real world construction skills while improving training and life support for all Soldiers who use the training site.

The 224th Sustainment Brigade recently welcomed back the 217th Financial Management Detachment and the 1970th Contingency Contracting Team from their mobilizations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The brigade currently has the 756th Transportation Company, HHC and FSC 578th Engineer Battalion, and the 1072nd Transportation Company with over 500 Soldiers deployed to Afghanistan and is preparing the 216th Engineer Company to deploy next year.

The brigade has also supported numerous state emergencies ranging from the Los Angeles Riots in 1992, Northern California Floods in 1997, San Diego Wildfires in 2007, and Northern California Wildfires in 2008.

The Soldiers and families of the 224th Sustainment Brigade have, and continue to serve both their state and country wherever and whenever needed.

Motorcycle from Page 2

Soldiers and qualified DoD personnel can go to any Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) qualified vendor for any of the required courses. If a Soldier is in the Sacramento area, we have used the Safety Center on Bradshaw Road with great success. A Google search will come back with great results for our riders unsure of vendors in their area. Once you have selected a vendor, visit our Motorcycle Safety Page for instructions on how to register for the training through our office. NOTE: The Safety office does not reimburse course

fees to Soldiers/DoD civilians who take and pay for a course. You must register through our office first and we must pay vendors directly. For additional information, please see our Motorcycle Safety Page located at portal.ca.ngb.army.mil/sites/Safety-OH-IH/Pages/_vehicles.aspx

Upon successful completion of the Basic Riders course, each rider must fax (916-255-6302) a copy of their MSF Basic Riders card and graduates can receive an ICON Riding vest pictured on Page 2 which will enable Soldiers to meet Personal Pro-

TECTIVE Equipment (PPE) requirements (a \$70 value). Please let us know the size vest that will fit you: Regular fits XS-4XL; Large fits 2XL to 4XL. Vests come in bright yellow or orange color options.

Army safety and military leadership have led the way in reducing risk through effective composite risk management. Motorcycle safety training and protective clothing reduce risk and are an essential component of Soldier care. I am positive we will reverse the upward trend of motorcycle accidents that take our most valuable

resource from us. Leaders at every level must be committed to working creatively to ensuring our force is made aware of motorcycle safety program and PPE requirements; opportunities are provided for taking the required training and standards are enforced.

For any questions or concerns on motorcycle safety please call or email our office: vickie.panagopoulos@us.army.mil 916-854-1441 or joe.cookl@us.army.mil, 916-854-1430.



California Army National Guard
9800 Goethe Road
Sacramento, CA 95827

Phone: 800-924-7782
Fax: 916-854-3084

ca-mua.armydiv.ngca@ng.army.mil

We're on the Web!
www.facebook.com/CAARMYGUARD

Links of interest:

Looking for a job? Try these links for a great resource.

Recruit Military:
recruitmilitary.com

Hero 2 Hired:
h2h.job

USA Jobs:
usajobs.gov

Check here for list of Job sites from A-Z of veteran-friendly employers:
Jobs A-Z:
www.vfwlady.com



Always Ready, Always There

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POC for this publication is: MAJ Jonathan Shiroma 916.854.3391

FRG: Soldiers, help us help you

By Valerie Claude-Murray and Debby Mendelsohn

Mission Readiness is a top priority for everyone.

In order to be prepared, it is vital that your current contact information is updated with your Readiness NCO, especially when cross leveling occurs.

This contact information is exchanged to Family Readiness

Groups (FRG).

FRGs provide your family information for support and resources, when you are away or at home. Families can then be provided with information to great resources, activities, opportunities and discounts available to military families and military children.

FRGs strive to support you and your family.

One great resource is the Joint Services Support website, www.jointservicesupport.org which provides information and resources searched by area or zip code for you.

A Family Readiness Support Assistant is available in every Brigade for any questions you may have.

The organizational chart can be found at www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies.

Army to recommend MultiCam for entire force

Military.com (June 28, 2012) - After years of testing, Army uniform officials are planning to recommend that MultiCam should replace today's pixelated design as the official camouflage pattern the service issues to all Soldiers, Military.com has learned.

Made by Crye Precision LLC of Brooklyn, N.Y., MultiCam is the pattern that outperformed the service's Universal Camouflage Pattern, or UCP, to become the Army's pattern for Soldiers deploying to Afghanistan. UCP was nonetheless adopted in 2004, but came under

congressional scrutiny when soldiers complained about its poor performance in Afghanistan.

Army uniform experts and scientists have been evaluating a handful of patterns that emerged from the service's exhaustive Phase IV camouflage improvement effort.

Program Executive Office Soldier would not comment on future camouflage recommendations.

"The Phase IV patterns are undergoing field trials and the data from those trials will be taken to Army senior leadership for review,"

said PEO Soldier spokeswoman Debi Dawson in a June 28 "media alert." "This will be followed by a cost-benefit analysis to determine if the Army will adopt a new camouflage pattern."

But officials running the camouflage effort are now looking at two options to recommend to the service's senior leadership this fall.

One option would be to make MultiCam the Army's official camouflage pattern, sources tell Military.com.

The second option would be to make MultiCam the service's pattern for garrison and

general deployment use, but also to have a family of approved camouflage patterns that could be issued for specific areas of the world.

Earlier this week, UCP came under fire again in a story by The Daily, an online news site, which quoted several Army scientists from Natick Soldier Systems Center, Mass., alleging that the Army selected UCP long before testing was complete.

To finish reading the article go to: military.com and see the "Army to recommend MultiCam for entire force" article.