

CENTURY SENTINEL

VOLUME 31, NO. 3 Fall 2016

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Janie Diamond, CW5 (R)

This message is one of my last duties as President of the Association of the Century. It has been a pleasure to serve this year but I will confess that I look forward to joining the Past President's list. Retirement has turned out to be way too busy and a lot more work than I ever imagined. The annual meeting was, in my mind, a huge success and I have received many positive comments and good feedback. I had a great time, the food was abundant and delicious, the hotel room and staff were exemplary, we had a nice turnout, and even though I didn't win that red coach purse I had my eye on in the raffle, or the wine and chocolate basket for that matter, the raffle and auction made the dinner a fun event. I got to see several friends I served with throughout the years that I had not seen in a long time. That was so nice. Our guest speaker, BG (Ret) Norman Arflack, gave an interesting and informative speech. I see why he was appointed as the Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs, he certainly has the background, skills, and personality for the job. A big shout out goes to the WKU ROTC color guard and Mrs. Susan Norman, who sang the National Anthem, they all did a great job.

The meeting success was due to the efforts of so many of our board members, it truly did 'take a village'. Many thanks go to Cyndy Noble and Pete Evans for the auction and raffle, Joe Lamkin for coordination with the hotel, which was a great choice, they could not have been more helpful. Thanks to Bob Cobb and Greg Gesell for handling the supply room for merchandise sales, Bob also printed the program and much more. Linda Bruin for handling the registration prior to and during the meeting, Ron and Glenda Moss for helping with planning and working in the supply room, and Edit Judd for her help with registration and ticket sales. Ben Zimmerman as Secretary and Ken Kapp as Treasurer work hard all year round not just for the annual meeting but for all the board meetings, their service is much appreciated. Since you are reading this in the newsletter, you can thank Norm Williams. Norm too works hard all year round. I have not used rank for these

members above because one of the things I love about this organization is that rank doesn't really matter. Colonels work side by side with Sergeants and even with Warrant Officers. We all work and I think that is one of our major strengths; the combination of enlisted and officer skills on the board of directors and in the core committees.

I thank our Board Chairman, MG (Ret) Barron, and Co-Chairman, MG (Ret) Tindall for their guidance, support, and hard work during this year. They are the backbone and heart of the Association.

I messed up a lot and all the people mentioned above and more pulled it off and the meeting went well. As you know, we had some personnel losses on the board since last year, these were key players in the internal processes like registration, programs, and name tags. We divided those duties and I ended up doing the name tags and table signs. We had a new box of lanvards to use and I thought there would be enough but we came up short since I had not counted the spouse name tags in the total. This came to light Friday when it was too late to order more of the new lanyards. COL (Ret) Bob Cobb came through for us with some borrowed lanyards from WKU. I initially thought it wouldn't be a problem since most of the spouses would probably not want to wear a name tag. I was wrong, many of the spouses wanted a name tag and I realized it is because they feel they too are members of the Association of the Century, not just along for the ride with their husbands. Even with the lanyard shortage I was happy and proud of this fact. I appreciate all the wives and husbands who are the spouses of our members, and give my thanks for their contributions and attendance at the meetings.

Next year our meeting will be in Lexington, I will see to it that we have enough lanyards and name tags for everyone, I promise. I know it will be another great meeting. SGT (Ret) Joe Lamkin as President and his committee will make sure of that. I hope to see you there. This year has taught me that even though the President stumbles and I did many times, the organization as a whole is bigger than one person and does overcome. I will climb on my soap box one last time here to say that our United States of America is like that too, no matter who wins the Presidency in November, we are strong enough to survive. One man or one woman can't hold us down. All we can do is be informed, vote, and have hope for our Nation.

THE CHAIRMAN'S FOXHOLE MG Bill Barron, USA Retired

I would like to begin by offering a special salute to BG Jason Walrath, departing Commanding General of the 100th for his caring, energetic leadership over the past two years. For most of us reading this edition of the Century Sentinel, the way that the Army Reserve and the 100th Division does business is nothing like what you and I remember. Both the leadership and the soldiers of the Fightin' 100th are spread around the country and hardly ever see each other but yet they continue to achieve outstanding results in training Soldiers for America's Army. The quality of 100th Division Soldiers was evident when the TRADOC Army Reserve Instructor of the Year SFC JaDrian Whitfield and SSG Katie Govoni, Combat Lifesaver, joined us in Bowling Green. Top notch Soldiers to say the least and thanks to each of you for joining a bunch of old Century Division Soldiers! BG Walrath is moving to the position of Deputy CG of US Army Recruiting Command replacing BG Troy Kok, another great USAR GO leader. I suspect that it will not be long before the Army selects BG Walrath for promotion and a 2-Star Command. The AOC wishes him the best for the days ahead!

To our new Commanding General, BG Aaron Walter, we are honored to have you stand at the head of our formation. The AOC stands ready to support you and the Soldiers of the 100th as we have since 1978. The next few years will be full of challenges as the Army Reserve continues to reshape to fit the needs of the Army. We are here to help. I can assure you that you are now commanding the best Training Division in the USAR.....it always was and it always will be!

Next I want to thank each AOC member along with their spouses or guests that attended the 36th Annual Reunion on August 27th. If you had fun in Bowling Green tell a friend about this year's gathering and make plans now to join us in Lexington in August of 2017 for our 37th Annual AOC Reunion. AOC 2016 President CW5 (R) Janie Diamond did a great job, as did our supporting Board of Directors and other volunteers to make this another banner year for the AOC. I am looking forward to working with incoming President SGT (R) Joe Lamkin to make 2017 another record setting year for the Association. Joe has worked diligently to help make the last two AOC Reunions a great success and he will be decisively engaged in working the details of next year's meeting. A big draw to our Annual Reunion is our raffle and live auction on Saturday evening. It is a great chance to get a great deal on some high end items. If you have a condo or a house in Florida or the Carolinas, or wherever, consider offering up a 5-7 day package to the highest bidder. The proceeds will enhance our AOC programs and you can actually have someone you 'know' in your condo. If you have other items you would like to offer up, let us know. Train 'Em Tough!

Recap of 36th Annual Reunion Bowling Green Norm Williams

A big thanks to all of you who attended this year's annual reunion in Bowling Green at the Hilton Green Hotel! It's always great to again talk with those soldiers with whom we once served and their families, and to meet others who served in different eras and units of the 100th.

We were happy to see several who attended this year's reunion for the first time -you'll see an article in this newsletter from one them, MSG (R) Wayne Gerding, former Operations NCO of 1-302 Cavalry Squadron, Frankfort, KY, who's glad he finally attended. Wayne has dutifully kept the 100th's Order of the Spur active for many years.

On Friday night, August 26, many of us met and had a savory dinner at Montana Grille, just across the parking lot from our Hilton Hotel. We later met at the Association's hospitality room in the Hilton for fellowship. You'll see photos of those soldiers and families in this newsletter.

At Saturday's Awards Luncheon, SFC JaDrian Whitfield was recognized for being awarded TRADOC Army Reserve Instructor of the Year, and SSG Katie Govoni was recognized for providing lifesaving first aid to two women stabbed. See their photos and stories in this newsletter. Also, see the names and photos of six soldiers who were inducted into the Corridor of the Century this year.

Saturday night at the banquet, attendees enjoyed an outstanding buffet dinner and heard an excellent presentation by BG (R) Norman Arflack presentation about services the state of Kentucky provides to military retirees and their families. You'll see photos of that and the winners of several superb raffle and auction items in the following pages.

The Association's next Annual Reunion will be held in Lexington, KY, on August 26, 2017. Mark this date on your calendar for 2017. Details will be published in future newsletters.

ANNUAL REUNION – FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

LTC Ken Kapp, AOC Treasurer

This year's 36th Annual Reunion was also a financial success for the Association of the Century. Over 120 members and guests attended both the Awards Luncheon and Banquet Dinner. The sale of AOC merchandise reached an all-time high of \$1,777; and the evenings' Auction and Raffle raised \$1,545 and \$1,168, respectively.

Over the one day meeting, ten new members joined three present members in contributing \$1,225 to The General's "Franklin Club" Challenge. The twelve participants designed \$575 to the Scholarship Fund, \$150 to the SOS Fund and \$500 unrestricted.

The AOC received Life Membership applications of CSM Andrew Lombardo and MSG George Fortune (Ret). During the Reunion, cash donations of \$118 and \$132 were made to the Scholarship and SOS Funds.



Train 'em Tough Quiz Question:

Who was the artist that painted this iconic oil portrait of MG Benjamin Butler that was displayed in the foyer of the 100th Divison Headquarters at Bowman Field and later moved with the Division to Fort Knox, Ky where it can be seen today on the Corridor of the Century Wall? The answer will be in the next issue of the Century Sentinel.

Answer from Summer 2016:

The answer was b. Fort Knox, KY



The General's 'Franklin Club' Challenge Report As of 25 September 2016

The General's "Franklin Club Challenge" has raised \$9,275 from 79 participants; \$3,675 was designated to the Scholarship Fund; \$900 to the SOS Fund, \$950 to the Museum Fund and \$3,750 designated unrestricted. The 79 participants are:

William D. Adams Maurice Allgeier Sammy Alvey Paul Baker Robert Barnes Bill Barron (\$200) David Belcher Byron Bell Richard Blain (\$250) Francis Bland Joe B. Brown Joe E. Brown William Brown Linda Bruin Richard D. Chegar (\$200) Ronald Moss Thomas Clay Robert Cobb Larry Craig Thomas Davis Janie Diamond Roy Downey **Douglas** Draper Tilman Drury Brian Duffy David Evans (\$300) Peter Evans Lindsey Freeman Scott Garrett Fleming Gordon Joel Hardin Larry Herzog (\$200) Leo Hill Carl A. Hulsewede III **Ronnie** Jervis James C. Johnson Hobart Judd David Jungquist (\$200) Ken Kapp (\$250) Allen Kessler Ray Lackey

Joe Lamkin **Benjamin Livingston** Mike Lyall Michael Mannarino J.D. Maples Jr. Clarence Martin Jr. (\$300) Elmo Martin (\$200) **Bobbie Maybrier** Charlie McBride Michael McCorkle Francis 'Mac' McDermott Keith McWhorter Ned McWhorter Mit Merritt Monte Nesmith Cyndy Nobel Milton Nugent Larry Pierson Carl Platt Albert Pomey Raymond Rodgers **Richard Rowe** James Glen Russel Robert Silverthorn Earl Sosby Jr. James Starr Dale Stewart David Sullivan John Swarts Durward C.Thomas Steve Thompson Travis W. Tichenor III John Tindal (\$250) Karl Truman Tony Warren Cleland White Norm Williams Ben Zimmerman

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<u>2016 AOC and</u> Community Foundation of Louisville Scholarships

The Association of the Century in conjunction with the Community Foundation of Louisville has selected the following individuals to receive a \$1,000.00 scholarship in 2016.

Congratulations to each of these outstanding young men and women listed below in alphabetical order and the colleges they will attend:

Tulane University

1. Jenny Begley	Western Kentucky University
2. Maria Donahoe	Manchester College
3. Morgan Fallin	University of Kentucky
4. William Hemingway	Transylvania University
5. Marisa Lee	California Polytechnic University
6. Grace Maurer	Indiana University Bloomington
7. Maya Messinger	Duke University
8. Paige Ostrowski	University of Louisville
9. Emma Platt	Indiana University Bloomington

10. Eleanor White



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Registration desk in the lobby of the Hilton with the AOC's sign prominently displayed.



Attendees listening attentively to BG (R) Arflack



Applauding BG (R) Norman Arflack's very informative remarks about Kentucky state government's efforts to assist veterans.



AOC Vice President SGT (R) Joe Lamkin auctioning a Vietnam Veterans Memorial print, one of many excellent auction items.



First-time Annual Reunion attendees, from left: Ed Thornton (nephew of Manuel Thornton, 1-302 Cavalry AST), Christy Thornton and MSG (R) Richard Gerding (President, Order of the Spur and former 1-302 Operations & Training NCO).

Testimony by MSG R. Wayne Gerding (Ret)

Years of encouragement and prodding from MG Barron finally resulted in me joining the Association of the Century (AOC) as a Life Member. In August I finally attended my first AOC meeting in Bowling Green, KY. It was a great event the food and fellowship was enjoyable. I saw and talked to a lot of people that I previously served and worked with. We talked of old times and the experiences we shared.

I have been associated with the 100th Division since January of 1987. Initially assigned as a Cavalry Operations NCO. Retired from AGR in August of 1996 and have been working as an IT government contractor to this day with the 100th G-6. My intentions were to always join the AOC. Not sure why it took me so long to do so.

The AOC is focused on supporting the 100th Division both past and present. The soldiers, retired members and their families. I would recommend to anyone who has served or is serving to join and not wait like I did.



The 25th Annual Reunion of the Century Division Association was on 9 Sept 1972 in Boston, Mass.

<u>CW4 (R) Richard "Dick" Peters, 100th Soldier,</u> <u>on Honor Flight of Kentucky Veterans to</u> <u>Washington, DC</u>

CW4 (R) Peters served 40 years in the Army, was an AST in the 100th and retired from the 100th. He served in the Korean and Gulf Wars. His own account of the trip is below and you can see him and several other Kentucky veterans on the trip in a video clip at <u>https://youtu.be/c4A4GqqFpqg</u>

On Saturday August 27th I was among the veterans selected for the Honor Flight to Washington DC. Needless to say I was excited and honored to be selected. The selection process puts priority for selection on WWII, Korean War, Vietnam vets and others such as myself. I was rather surprised to be selected because even though I had served for a long time, I never was deployed overseas to a combat area. But nevertheless, I was selected and my son Dan was to be my guardian. (every vet must have a guardian). We were sponsored by Bluegrass Energy and they footed the bill for both of us. There were 47 veterans in our group each with his own guardian. The oldest one was 97.

We arrived at Bluegrass Field in Lexington at 0630 to a welcoming committee and huge breakfast. There were also some welcoming addresses by Congressman Andy Barr, and Secretary of State Allison Grimes. We were each provided a goody bag containing a T-shirt (Blue for vets and Gray for guardians), disposable camera and other trinkets. Then we were off to DC.

We were greeted in DC by the fire department with water cannons on both sides of the plane and a huge crowd of people in the terminal. I have never shaken so many hands in my life. We then boarded buses with a police escort and proceeded to our first stop the Iwo Jima Marine Memorial where a group photo was taken. We then visited the museum dedicated to all female veterans and then on to Arlington. At Arlington we witnessed the changing of the guard and a group of our WWII vets placed a wreath at the tomb of the unknowns. The guards at the tomb are really amazing, in dress blues with shirt and tie in 90 degree heat I was impressed. From there we were taken to the WWII Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, and the Vietnam Memorial. All are very impressive. At the WWII Memorial I was honored to meet former Senator Bob Dole and get photo taken with him. He is a wounded WWII vet and makes it point to try and be at the memorial whenever an Honor Flight visits. It really helped having a police escort because I don't believe we would have gotten to all those places in the time allotted without it, but we were never rushed. We even drove around the capitol building and the front of the white house. Then it was time to head to the airport.

At the airport we were entertained by some nice ladies who performed a number of patriotic dance routines for us. Mail Call was held and each veteran received a plastic bag full of cards and letters from well wishers. Some were from family members, but others were from complete strangers including school kids. It was a moment I will never forget, because there were a lot of tears flowing while reading this mail. We then boarded our plane and headed for home. Upon our arrival at Bluegrass Field we were again greeted by the fire department with two water cannons. Inside the terminal we were met by a group of bagpipers who led us through the crowd of well wishers, friends and family members.

All in all it was a remarkable trip. Meeting and visiting with some of the other vets was truly a humbling experience for me, because in many instances their service was so much more worthy of honor than my own. I served over 40 years but never experienced war or combat during that time. My units were called to active duty twice during my service, but never deployed to a hostile environment and I consider myself to be very lucky. I would strongly recommend to any veteran who has not taken the Honor Flight to apply. You can apply on-line and there are flights from Louisville and Lexington (this was the first from Lexington), but I believe another is scheduled for October. It was a great day!



SSG Katie Govoni, 100th Combat Lifesaver, who was recognized for saving the lives of two civilian stabbing victims in Louisville on late on the night of the 2015 AOC Annual Reunion.

New Corridor of the Century Inductees



COL (R) David Barnett



LTC (R) Lawrence Herzog



LTC (R) Ken Kapp



CSM (R) Harrison Guthrie



CSM (R) Jack Perkins



CSM (R) Manuel Thornton - Award was accepted by his nephew Ed Thornton and witnessed by several soldiers who served with CSM Thornton.



Everyone is ready for Saturday lunch to be served!



Pictured above: Cara Beth Dawson, BirthPlace, Hodgenville, Newborn, Manilyn Reynolds, Elizabethtown Shom at right Annada Chism, M.D., Internd Hed/Peds, Vine Grove, Mile Senay, Occology Pharmacist, Elizabethtown; Saundra Salvia, DJI, Vine Grove, Sheldon Lackey, CT Bech, Elizabethtown, Marshall Johnson, M.D., Surgery, Elizabethtown





New 100th Commanding General

Brigadier General Aaron T. Walter assumed command of the 100th Training Division (Operational Support) at Fort Knox, Kentucky on 11 September 2016.

Brigadier General Walter was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers through the Missouri State University (MSU) Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Program in May 1985.

Prior to becoming the Commanding General of the 100th Training Division (Operational Support), BG Walter served as the Deputy Commanding General of the 84th Training Command, Brigadier General Walter served as Chief of the Army Reserve Enlisted Division and Deputy Director – Army Reserve in the Enlisted Personnel Management Directorate, U.S. Army Human Resources Command. Before that, he served as Director of the Army Reserve Senior Leader Development Office; Commander of the Army Reserve Readiness Training Center; Deputy Assistant Commandant -Army Reserve at the U.S. Army Engineer School (USAES); Chief of the Current Operations Division, G-33, DCS G-3/5/7 at the U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC); Commander of the 479th Engineer Battalion (Combat Effects), and while deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Task Force Liberty; Chief of the Current Operations Branch, Operations and Mobilization Division, G-3 at the USARC; Chief of Plans, Operations Division, C-7 Directorate (Engineering) at Coalition Forces Land Component Command/U.S. Army Central/Third Army; Executive Officer and Assistant Professor of Military Science for the Gateway Army ROTC Battalion at Washington University in St. Louis; and Personnel Management Officer and Personnel Proponent Integration Officer at the Army Reserve Personnel Command in St. Louis, MO.

Prior assignments include the Engineer/Space Advisor at the Depth and Simultaneous Attack Battle Lab, U.S. Army Field

Artillery School; Training Evaluator on a First Army Operational Readiness Evaluation Team; Commander of B Company, 31st Engineer Battalion and E Company, 35th Engineer Battalion, 3rd Training Brigade at Fort Leonard Wood, MO; Lead Analyst in the Directorate of Training and Doctrine at the USAES; and almost four years in the 12th Engineer Battalion, 8th Infantry Division, Dexheim, West Germany, as a Platoon Leader and Executive Officer.

Brigadier General Walter earned a Bachelor's degree in Cartography and Map Technology (major) and Military Science (minor) from MSU, a Master's Degree in Computer Resources and Information Management from Webster University, and a Masters in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College (USAWC). He has completed the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, Command and General Staff College, Defense Strategy Course, Sustaining Base Leadership Management Program at the Army Management Staff College, Reserve Component National Security Course, the USAWC, the USAWC Senior Leader Seminar; Advanced Joint Professional Military Education, and the Joint Senior Reserve Component Officer Course.

Brigadier General Walter's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with seven oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Superior Unit Award, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Parachutist Badge, and the Engineer Regiment Bronze Order of the de Fleury Medal.

Brigadier General Walter resides in Alexandria, VA with his wife Maureen (Friel) Walter. He is a proud father of three children – Meghan, Conor, and Keira.



100th Division 'passing of the colors' on 11 Sept 2016. Photo was published in the Thursday, Sept 22, 2016 edition of the The Gold Standard newspaper

<u>Century Division Order of the</u> <u>Spur - "Scout's Out"</u>

At the August 2016 AOC Annual Reunion in Bowling Green, a discussion group addressed the issues the Order faces with continuing its existence due to the present lack of Cavalry and Armor units in the USAR and the decreasing number of members in the Order. The majority of members agreed that a relationship with the AOC could be developed. Basically the Order would be restructured in the form of a committee/group of members that would continue to promote Cavalry Heritage. Details and specifics need to be formulated, discussed and approved by the Order and the AOC. Also, the financial assets of the Order need to be structured to support the Order and support the AOC with its scholarship awards.

As President of the Order I am reaching out to the both the Order and Association members to obtain your thoughts, ideas, and concerns as we move forward. I can be reached via email, snail mail or stop by and visit me in the 100th Division G-6 Office in Boudinot Hall.

Additionally I am asking all Spur Order members to send me your current contact information. Request your current Email, mailing address and phone number to update personnel records.

MSG Wayne Gerding (Ret) President Century Division Order of the Spur richard.w.gerding.ctr@mail.mil Work - 502 626-2287 871 Avenstoke Road, Waddy, KY, 40076



Command Sgt. Maj. David S. Davenport Sr., the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command senior enlisted leader, presents Sgt. 1st Class JaDrian Whitfield with a certificate of achievement

<u>100th NCO Wins</u> <u>TRADOC Reserve Instructor of the Year</u>

For the second year in a row, an 80th Training Command, 100th Division soldier has won the 2015 U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Reserve Instructor of the Year competition.

On August 25, 2016, SFC JaDrian Whitfield received the award during a ceremony administered by TRADOC Commander Gen. David Perkins Fort Eustis, VA. The human intelligence collector instructor said winning this year's event event was a professional and personal triumph, and while the title "Instructor of the Year" is an individual achievement; credit goes to the engaged and supportive leaders who have motivated and mentored her.

"This has provided me a great sense of accomplishment that I can share with my family, and especially with my children," said the married mother of three. The aim of the TRADOC competition is to identify the best instructor in the Army Reserve, but before winning the TRADOC event, Whitfield won the 80th Training Command and United States Army Reserve Command competitions in the enlisted category.

"I was already overwhelmed after winning the 80th and USARC competitions, but this completely tops those other two," said Whitfield, who in her civilian capacity works as a government contractor developing training exercises for Army units.

Like last year's winner, Sgt. 1st Class Raymundo Soto, Whitfield is assigned to the 6th Military Intelligence Battalion, 1st Brigade, 100th Training Division, 80th TC.

Command Sgt. Maj. Steven Walker, senior enlisted leader 6th MI battalion, said the Army got it right by selecting Whitfield as the Reserve instructor of the year, because she's also an exceptional noncommissioned officer. "She leads from the front and follows up on everything," Walker said. "When something needs to be done she does it and she keeps her Solders on track."

Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffery Darlington, the 80th TC's senior enlisted leader, said while he's impressed with the 6th Military Intelligence battalion's consecutive winners, he'd like to see similar results from other other 80th TC units.

"I've already challenged the other formations across the command to take the crown from the 6th MI Battalion, and

we're looking forward to winning the title three years in a row," Darlington said.



The Color Guard from Western Kentucky University ROTC presenting the Colors at Saturday night's dinner

<u>NCOs "Train 'Em Tough" –</u> 100th Division's Accreditation Ratings Soar

Two years ago the 100th Division (OS), faced an arduous challenge. The US Army, Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) served notice that to be in compliance and continue training Soldiers under the Army's One Army School System (OASS) directive, each Reserve Component institutional training organization from Division down thru Battalion must achieve a "Full Accreditation" rating, while being held to the exact same standards, as their Active Duty counter-part. TRADOC assesses and assigns the rating of each organization as "Candidate for Accreditation" (lowest possible rating – possible loss of school code): "Conditional Accreditation" (noted deficiencies which must be corrected in one year or less); "Full Accreditation" (achieved success in all standards); and "Institute of Excellence" (highest possible rating). Furthermore, these stringent accreditation standard also applied to any locations where OASS training was being conducted. Under the new directive, waivers were no longer acceptable as the means to achieve any of the established standards.

In broad scope, this meant that all training requirements to include, safety, instructor certifications, equipment, weapons, simulators, dining facilities, classrooms and barracks required by the Program of Instruction (POI) must all be present and 100% to standard being objectively judged through the same lens, as that applied to the Active Proponent School House. This would be an especially formidable task, given the fact that the 100th Division (OS) is responsible for conducting instruction in four of the Army's most demanding and complex Career Management Fields (CMFs): Military Intelligence (MI), Signal/Cyber (SC), Civil Affairs/Military Information Support Operations (CA/MISO), and Health Services (HS).

The 100th Division (OS) responded doing what it has always done best. It relied on, strong, experienced, competent and

caring NCOs to lead the effort. Given limited time and facing financial constraints, the 100th Division, G3 Operations Sergeant Major, SGM Ernest Vigil, seized the initiative to recruit a very "lean" but passionate team of NCOs. MSG Ira (Tom) Fowler and SFC Robert Hargis answered the call to duty and assumed responsibility for all aspects this Quality Assurance (QA) mission. The successful accomplishment of this mission, would be critical to the Division's readiness, and future relevance.

MSG Fowler and SFC Hargis wasted no time hitting the trail as they began crisscrossing the Country, traveling to each Brigade, Battalion and Training Center, to conduct preassessment visits, provide training on TRADOC Accreditation Standards to Brigade and Battalion Instructors and Staffs. MSG Fowler and SFC Hargis implemented action plans to correct any noted deficiencies. MSG Fowler and SFC Hargis, meticulously established a Division QA program with rigor and attention to detail. Equally as important, these talented NCOs, established a strong reputation with the TRADOC and Proponent School House QA teams. This reputation was based on their demonstrated professionalism, technical competence and dedication to their mission. Their efforts continue to pay huge dividends to the Division and its reputation as the premier trainer of Soldiers.

During this past year, the average Accreditation score within the 100th Division has soared from a TRADOC Pre-Assessment rating of 77%, to an astounding 97%. Nine Battalions assessed to this point have received a rating as an "Institute of Excellence", as has one of the four Brigades, with others still on the ready line. Furthermore, all units assessed to this point have received no less than "Full Accreditation", including one Battalion that through the Division's QA program, moved from a "Candidate for Accreditation" to "Full Accreditation" in less than a year. A remarkable tribute to the outstanding NCO leadership that has always made the 100th Division such a special organization.

"Train "Em Tough"!!!

COL (RET) David M. Barnett



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