Mr. President:

Ted Mann was right.

Our F-11.

[Signature]

JFK
By the rude bridge that arched the flood,
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,
Here once the embattled farmers stood,
And fired the shot heard round the world.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

The Bicentennial Minute Man
mid-winter (and our cover)

Advance details of biggest and best Mid-Winter ever:


Social Security: first of series explaining just how. Reserves are affected. See Reserve page.


Commissaries: Letters about servicemen affected. See Retirement page.

Army: _______ ____________

Navy: _________________

Retirement: __________

Editorial: Help by 486th Civil Affairs Company, Army Reserve. Maj. M. Hughes helps Santa. (Tribune Photo by Jim Milin.)

Santa's (Spec. 4, Rodney J. Denmark) arrival in a jeep for the third annual Christmas party given for children at Children's Medical Center's Sunnyside School by the 486th Civil Affairs Company, Army Reserve. Maj. M. Hughes helps Santa. (Tribune Photo by Jim Milin.)

Reserve Officers Association of the United States

Organized in 1931 as the National Reserve Officers' Association of the United States by a group of officers serving in the National Guard, the Reserve Officers Association of the United States is the national voice of the reserve officer and serves as the link between the Reserve Component and the country it serves.

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call-up authority gets high priority:

its bill to give the President authority to call as many as 50,000 Reservists to active duty for up to 90 days is high on DoD's legislative program for the new 94th Congress. The proposed bill Defense is sending to Congress would give the call-up authority to Selected Reservists, with emphasis on calling entire units rather than individuals. An example of the need for the bill, Defense says, was the airlift requirement during the "Yom Kippur War" of 1973. Call-ups are now limited to individuals Reservists who consent to be called, though other laws cover call-ups of troops during civil disturbances.

National Guard fears big cuts:

The National Guard Association, like ROA, is warning of the danger to the Reserve Components if funds are cut further. NGA President Duane L. Corning predicts "irresistible pressure" to decrease Defense appropriations. Maj. Gen. Corning said he fears a "marginal approach" will be the result.

Bases costing more money:

 Maintaining vital bases overseas is costing more money. One of the last acts of the 93rd Congress was to grant financial assistance to Portugal to assist the new government. Portugal grants the U.S. use of Lajes Field in the Azores. The importance of that base was underscored in late 1973 when the airlift resupplying Israel used it extensively. Now there is evidence that the Persian Gulf sheikdom of Bahrain is raising the price for renewing the Navy Base agreement from $600,000 a year to $4 million a year. Bahrain is the base of the Middle East Force.

How safe are the oil rigs at sea?

In this era of terrorism and uneasy peace in the Middle East, at least six European nations are worried enough to be studying means of defending the rigs being erected in the North Sea. They are Britain, Norway, the Netherlands, Belgium, West Germany and Denmark. An increasing amount of our own oil is coming from such rigs -- in both the Pacific Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico, and planned big development off the Mid-Atlantic coast the United States faces the same danger.

South Korea has honored Sen. Strom Thurmond.

For promoting American-Korean relations and supporting arms aid to South Korea, President Chung Hee Park has conferred an honorary doctorate and the Order of Diplomatic Service 

 aftermath upon the Arned Services Committee from South Carolina. Senator Thurmond received the honor during a late December visit.
President Seeks To Undo Congress' Defense Actions

Shortly before Congress adjourned, President Ford submitted proposed rescissions and deferrals of congressionally approved appropriations totaling about $4.8 billion. The rescissions he proposed for the Defense Department were relatively small in total dollars—about $500 million—since Mr. Ford took into account the cuts Congress already had made in the Defense budget.

But nearly every one was directed at unduly adding Congresses had made in the budget, notably the appropriations made to finance the authorized strength of the Reserve components.

When one looks at the $500 million to be reduced from the Defense Department budget, it is noted that 33 percent of the total is placed on the Reserve components.

Even more shocking is that of the 35 percent of the total is placed on the Reserve components, 10 percent of that is placed on the Reserve component strength. This is far too heavy an assessment on one segment of our defense budget, it is noted that 35 percent of which are included in the anti-inflation refusal.

The rescission calls for appropriation of the A-7D, if the funds are halted as the Administration proposes and the Congress refuses to go along with the Administration request, the Congress shall be entitled to the amount for the A-7D and the F-111 bombers, both of which are included in the anti-inflation refusal.

Frankly, it appears the Defense Department has recommended to the Administration that the additional cuts be taken in the very areas in which the Congress is exercising its initiative. It is my opinion that the Congress will look with disfavor on this request, but, unfortunately, much damage could be done prior to a final decision by our legislative branch. This is true because the Administration plans to stop funding for the programs as soon as authorized. This will start a spiral downward in Guard strength and imperil unambiguously the aircraft production lines of the Air Guard designated A-7D aircrafts.

Reserve Most Economical

The Defense Department seems to forget that the Reserve components constitute the most economical defense capability for a rapidly shrinking defense dollar. For instance, in the Army Guard we are maintaining eight divisions which could be called to active duty at any time, although we are paying these men only four days’ pay per month for inactive duty training. We are getting more for our defense dollar through this program than the majority of other programs of which I am aware. As regards the A-7D, if the funds are halted as the Administration proposes and the Congress refuses to go along with the Administration request, then when the funding is resumed, additional costs as high as $7 million will be incurred.

Train Men Will Be Lost

Of particular note in the Reserve cuts is the situation faced by the Naval Reserve. The rescission calls for appropriation of the F-111 bomber which, with the threat of the 171,000 authorized and funded by the Congress, is estimated the Naval Reserve strength could be forced to reduce as low as 100,000, and, of course, the majority of these reductions would come from the threat of trained enlisted personnel now serving in the Naval Reserve. It would be a serious mistake to force men out of the Reserve program when the high cost of defense requires better use of our dollars and such could be easily achieved in the Reserve program.

Of course, it appears the Defense Department has recommended to the Administration that the additional cuts be taken in the very areas in which the Congress is exercising its initiative. For instance, the Congress provided authorizations and funding for the more responsible levels of Reserve component management. It also added to the budget of the A-7D and the F-111 bombers, both of which are included in the anti-inflation refusal.

This is not a Total Force Policy. This is not a Total Force Policy. This is a Total Force Policy. Congress shall be entitled to the amount for the A-7D and the F-111 bombers, both of which are included in the anti-inflation refusal.

The pay attachment provision was added by the Senate to a big social services bill, H.R., 17045, which was signed into law.

The part of the section, effective from 1 January 1975, of the new law, Sec. 459. "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, effective September 1, 1974, any amount which is due and payable to the United States (including any agency of the United States (including any agency or instrumentality thereof and any wholly owned federal corporation) by any individual, including members of the armed forces, shall be subject to garnishment in the manner and to the same extent as if the United States were a private person, to legal process brought for the enforcement, against such individual, of his legal obligation to provide child support or make child support payments."

In the general context of the bill the last words mean only alimony designated for child support. Debate on the House floor as the Senate-added provisions were agreed to indicated that social security and veterans benefits checks are subject to attachment, as well as the chemical, civil, and military personnel. Unemployment compensation checks are not affected.

The attachment can only take place if the spouse (runaway wives ordered to support children left in the custody of husbands) are ineligible for government support of the children. But that means more wives have been trying to make it on their own, even though husbands have not made court-ordered child-support payments are likely to seek government support to put the government collection machinery into operation.

The Internal Revenue Service will be responsible for the collecting—after the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare certifies court-ordered support has been forthcoming and after a 60-day grace period. A special Parent Locator Service is established in H.R. to track the parents.

The Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare is authorized to use the records and facilities of the entire federal government to assist in the parent-finding operation.

Arguing successfully for the provisions on the House floor, Acting Ways and Means Committee Chairman Al Ullman said it was for people who get federal paychecks in exactly the same position as regards liability for court-ordered child support of people "in the private sector.

Other Major Legislation

The Army RIF bill (S. 3191) was urged by the Army which early in the year had scattered Reservists to the extent that many of them left on duty were expected to amount to 5,000. It wanted, therefore, to include Reserve personnel and below in future RIF’s. This means some Reservists who otherwise would have had to be released from active duty may be retained.

The big successor to the Office Personnel Act, which has permanent discharge and early retirement provisions, went to Congress in 1974 but was not acted on. Nor was the Regular non-disability retirement package—and a brief exploratory hearing showed many key Congressmen do not like it.

Reserve retirement act went to the Budget Bureau but never reached Congress. A request for authority to recall up to 50,000 Reservists reached Congress the last days of the session. There was no action on it.

Other Late Action

In addition to bills passed and sent to the President, the Senate passed late in the session S. 3283, which makes a major change in RIF law, allowing on active duty in prescribed war periods eligible for retired pay. The House passed a resolution (S. Res. 493), which required no further action, expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States continue all efforts to get an accounting of the missing in Southeast Asia.

The President pocket-vetoed S. 821, increasing the maximum per diem and mileage allowances of civil servants. The bill probably will be repassed in 1975 minus an objectionable provision, and similar increases will be voted military people.

Also Signed Into Law

S. 2963, which makes regular disable veterans may pay for specially equipped aides.

H.R. 16008, which provides added latitude in shipping privately owned vehicles of service members.

H.R. 16909, the supplemental appropriation bill carrying money to pay schools districts which have substantial federal employee children as pupils.

H.R. 10701, which authorizes deepwater ports for super-tankers off the U.S. Coast. The law will mean a new job for the Coast Guard.

H.R. 11144, which authorizes the Naval Sea Cadets of the Navy League and the Young Mariners of the Marine Corps League to be furnished obsolete or surplus naval material, the Boy Scout program such a law.

H.R. 12113, which gives the Comptroller General new powers, including the right to audit nonappropriated funds.

H.R. 824, providing special tax treatment for POWs and MIA’s.

GARNISH, OTHER BILLS PASS

Reserve, pay garnish, other bills pass

(Continued on Page 27)
Told that not only do they have to be prepared to defend their country but they also have to help national defense and a strong Reserve. One of our members sent a letter to us recently. (Over the course of a month, we received at least 11 such letters, and one like this one, they are most welcome—and helpful.)

Our response was the printing of an editorial in the 8 October 1974 issue of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. The editorial was a vicious attack on the Reserves. Our member said, "I thought maybe National Headquarters would like to respond to this editorial."

Well, now if we rebutted every attack on our armed forces or on our Reserves which appears in publications throughout the United States, we'd have little time to do anything else. And if we printed such rebuttals in The Officer we'd have little space for anything else.

But we'd do it—if that were the most effective way. It isn't the effective way because:

1. Our rebuttal necessarily would be much delayed and would have to "catch up" to the level of let-alone, it would have to "catch up" to the level of thought of the writer.
2. If printed in The Officer, the rebuttal would be seen by only a minute part of the people who read the original.

...And Here's Help in Doing It

Don't think, after reading the above, that we at National Headquarters don't know what we can, both in direct rebuttal and in giving you facts for your rebuttals. We do.

But we respond to your requests.

Editorial

Our response was the printing of an editorial entitled "U. S. Military Reserve Is an Expensive Bauble." The editorial states that a National Guard and Air Force Battery in Daytona Beach, with responsibility to man a Korean War vintage anti-aircraft weapon with virtually no capability to shoot down an aircraft, is typical of the money being wasted on Reserves; that of the 29,000 paid Reservists 300,000 could be eliminated without fear of disrupting national security, that new Regular Army units could be brought to proficiency in the time it would take them to get the most advanced into battle conditions; that National Guard units are self-perpetuated by the governors who control them and that the current governor is a proud member of the big fellowship club; that the one billion dollars spent annually to prepare guard units is a waste of time and money. We ask you to read the editorial and judge for yourself what we have said.

State Department negotiations with Panama over relinquishing sovereignty of the Canal Zone to the United States began in 1973. From a historical perspective, the Panama Canal is just as much American territory as the Louisiana Purchase of 1803. We should be heirs to it and the American people should view it as another prize of victory to be added to our national heritage. The Panama Canal is an essential asset for the United States and should be preserved for our national defense. The United States must not allow any negotiations which could result in the loss of the Canal Zone. The U.S. government must take all necessary steps to ensure the continued operation of the Canal and to protect the rights and interests of the United States in the Canal Zone.

March 23, 1975

The Officer

February 1975

LAPFEL PIN worn by National President Ted Sorensen (right), presented by John J. Stang (center), GVC of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the GVC. The pin is a type worn by General Sorensen's father-in-law and other VFW members in the 1920s. Col. John T. Carlson (left), holds a VFW tie clip, also presented by Col. Ogel Simpson, USAV, VFW's emblem to the GVC."
Having difficulties with your employer as a result of Reserve or Guard membership? An ombudsman program has been set up by the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve to help when the situation cannot be ironed out personally or through your unit. Write Ombudsman, Employer Support, Arlington, Va. 22202, or phone (202) 897-8974. The program in action is illustrated by the above cartoon by Clifford "Benny" Baldowski, editorial cartoonist for the Atlanta Constitution.

Today Show, Cartoon Enhance Employer Support of Reserve

NBC television gave a big boost to the program of winning employer support of Reserve membership when it featured James M. Roche, chairman of the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, on its "Today Show." And an editorial cartoonist helped publicize the new office designed to handle employer-employee difficulties which cannot be adjusted personally or through the unit. (See photo above.)

Mr. Roche, General Motors president, was given time on the NBC network to tell just what the Committee he heads is doing. The committee's purpose, said Mr. Roche, is to make it possible for Guadmen and Reservists to participate in the Guard and Reserve without loss of job security of any nature or earned vacations. Without employer understanding and appreciation, employee members often experience difficulties in meeting their training requirements. He added that this was very important today because the Guard and Reserve now supplies about 20 percent of the Total Forces personnel at only five percent of the defense budget.

Labor Organizations Pledge Help, Too

Support for Reserve-Guard participation by its members also has been pledged by the AFL-CIO.

In a joint statement, AFL-CIO President George Meany and J. M. Roche, chairman of the Committee for Employer Support, declared the Reserve components "are vital to the defense of our nation" and that an all-volunteer force requires "labor and management" to make it possible "for the volunteer reservist and National Guardsman to devote adequate time to training."

The statement also referred to the individual benefits of Reserve membership: "where professional and skills training often create new job opportunities" and "the prestige of belonging to a good unit provides social outlets and cultural benefits retained for a lifetime."

The statement was presented on the House floor by Rep. G. V. (Sonny) Montgomery of Mississippi, who said it had been brought to his attention by the general secretary of the International Union of Operating Engineers "whose own union has endorsed the program."

Wiener on National Defense Executive Reserve

Lt. Col. Norman Wiener, USA-R, of New Rochelle, N.Y., a Life Member of ROA and past president of the Brooklyn Army Terminal Chapter, has been appointed to the National Defense Executive Reserve by Secretary of Transportation Claude Brinegar.

Colonel Wiener, who is Vice President of Globe Shipping Co., Inc., N.Y., will be one of 450 members of the Emergency Transportation Unit of this pool of key business executives selected to serve in key civilian posts of government in any future national emergency.

Reserve and National Guard Officers now can join the 6 out of 7 active duty officers who are members of USAA.

USAA has expanded eligibility for membership to include commissioned officers and warrant officers of the Reserve and National Guard.

If you are a Reserve or National Guard officer you now can apply for money-saving USAA insurance. You may save $20-$40-$60 a year on auto insurance, depending on your age, your car, and your location.

Small wonder 6 out of 7 active duty officers are already members of USAA.

To become a USAA member, simply take out a policy while you are eligible. Once you become a member, your eligibility for membership lasts a lifetime, whether you are in the Service or out. Former members are eligible to reapply at any time.

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Chapter Opposes Amnesty

The following letter was written to the Dayton, Ohio, Journal-Herald in response to an editorial in that newspaper.

Contry to your recently expressed editorial opinion, the members of the Armed Services Association of the United States on Sept. 10, 1974, voted overwhelmingly to oppose any special amnesty provisions for those who have returned after draft-dodging and deserters. As for any move, where possible by public service act or may "earn" their forgiveness, we feel there is a vast difference between service in the Peace Corps and the Marine Corps.

I have always been convinced about the importance and value of the ROA in relation to National Defense Components. It is indeed gratifying with the ROA responds so vigorously to a personal question.

William R. Reeman
National USAR
San Francisco, Calif.

The Combat Art Exhibit

Thank you, President Truelsen, and the members of the Reserve Officers Association, for inviting the Navy to display original World War II art from our Combat Art Collection in the Minuteman Building during the month of October.

As you know, 13 October 1974 was the Navy's one hundred and ninety-ninth birthday. The Minuteman Building itself, both in its location and its facilities—for displaying these invaluable works of art—is an important occasion.

A special thank you is also extended to ROA's fine leadership, who cooperated in making this a successful event.

J. William Middendorf II
Secretary of the Navy

Wireless Ops Sought

I am sure you have a number of ex radio telegraphers among your members who are not aware of our organization or their eligibility for life membership.

I also think this year's retirement appointments who have previously served in any of the armed services, that this is a good time to let these eligible for life membership in the Society of Wireless Pioneers. This unique organization was founded in 1949 to perpetuate the history, memory and traditions of radio operators and to mark the exploits and deeds of the many heroic wireless operators who served their country in a time of danger and disaster.

The society helps members find old buddies, provide a printing unit for old friends of reunions, get-togethers and for the publication of the society's newsletter, which is published bi-monthly.

Operations have been extended to all major seaports, both on land and at sea. The Mission of the society is to perpetuate the memory and history of the wireless operators of World War II. The Society of Wireless Pioneers, P.O. Box 10307, Houston, Texas 77040, A/C 713 466-6125.

Walter C. Willen
V.P. Public Relations

Congress OKs Money for Reserve Facilities

The House Appropriations Committee told the House it was "heartened" to see the Reserve programs.

It said maintenance and support shops and training facilities believed to be improved with the "new" and increased spending on Reserve facilities.

More Joint Use Urged

But the committee warned that money for the newly approved and newly built facilities "directly enhance the ability of the Guard and Reserve to assume a combat role should the need arise." Cross-utilization must be stressed, it said.

It does not appear as a budget increase because of a technicality, but $1,335,000 was added for the Naval Reserve to finance construction of Army and Navy Reserve activities at Westover AFB, Mass. The Naval Reserve Center will move from Springfield, Mass.

Here, by contrast, are the projects financed by Congress:

Army Reserve

House and Senate both voted the budget request of $437 million over $5 million more than for fiscal 1974.

The money will finance 17 training centers and expand 14 existing ones. It will provide 3 aviation facilities, an equipment concentration site, area maintenance shop and a weekend training equipment pool/organizational maintenance shop.

And it provides $5.1 million for minor construction, planning and design. The appropriation, said the Senate Appropriations Committee, "is consistent with Army's continuing recognition of the need to acquire Reserve facilities. Instead of spending $50,000, can be spent on any given minor construction project without specific authorization in law.

Funds Available for Reserve Construction

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Funds Available for Reserve Construction

Only $50,000, can be spent on any given minor construction project without specific authorization in law.

New and Carryover Funds available for construction by each of the Reserve Components are shown above. The figures are rounded to the nearest thousand, and the balances and totals available are estimates.
Military and Civil Service retirees with incurred a small pay loss as a result of an error in the Consumer Price Index.

They will, however, lose the amount resulting from the error through a collection by the government of overpayments from July to December on the basis of the retroactive correction to the CPI. The government has decided not to recoup these overpayments.

The 6.4 percent cost-of-living increase in July should have been 6.3 percent.

Therefore, the annuity rates for all present retirees must be slightly reduced.

The January 1975 COL, raise which was expected to be 7.4 percent will probably be 7.3 percent.

Only About $1 Involved

On average the amount per pay involve is about $1 per month for a person drawing approximately $500 monthly. Officials decided the amount of paper work did not make it worthwhile to collect an average of $6 in overpay in the period for the period of July through December.

Officials say preliminary estimates indicate the April CPI will be reduced from 146.0 to 143.9. The new COL would be only 5.3 percent above the old base of 136.6. In October 1973, with the usual one percent added, the July 1974 raise should have been 6.3 percent and the figures show.

The estimated change in the October 1974 CPI is a drop from the previously reported 153.2 down to 152.9, three-tenths of a point. Measured from the April 1974 base month index, as changed, the percentage increase through October is 6.3 instead of 6.4, indicating a 7.3 percent raise in January.

New Retiree Slightly Affected

The "portal" raise calculated for military retirees currently leaving active duty also is affected. The boost was to be 6.3 percent but would be reduced to 6.2 percent, representing the difference between the September 1973 CPI (135.5) and the April 1974 CPI.

For most retirees, the successive July and January colonel raises before the CPI adjustment figured out to a cumulative 14.27 percent. The adjustments bring this down to 14.06 percent, a shade more than two-tenths below what was expected previously.

The error occurred in the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics while compiling used car price changes last April.

Labor Department spokesmen say the error was about 1.6 percent. That amount resulted in the first month index figures from April through October being too large. The correct CPI for the months involved are as follows: May, 145.5; June, 146.9; July, 148.0; August, 149.9; September, 151.7 and, October, 153.0.

Social Security As It Affects the Military

(This is the first of a series you will want to clip and save)

By Col. H. R. Eichenberg

The Social Security offset to the Survival Benefit Program has created considerable interest among service people in Social Security rights, benefits and entitlements.

The Social Security program is vital to each of us—whether Active, Reserve, Retired or Retired. In this and future articles we will cover the various options available.

Social Security, as it is usually known, means to you and your family. What are credits, coverage benefits, entitlements. What is the cost to you, your employer and to the government.

What is Social Security?

The purpose of Social Security is to provide some income when earnings stop or are reduced because the wage earner retires, dies or becomes disabled.

The program is divided into four major benefits: (a) Retirement Benefits, (b) Survivor Benefits, (c) Disability Benefits and (d) Hospital and Health Insurance (Medicare).

The benefits are based on Social Security taxable earnings in the years when you were employed. The taxable earnings are based on Social Security covered earnings.

The taxable earnings are based on Social Security covered earnings.

The program is divided into four major benefits: (a) Retirement Benefits, (b) Survivor Benefits, (c) Disability Benefits and (d) Hospital and Health Insurance (Medicare).

The basic philosophy of the Social Security laws is that if there is more than one formula to compute Social Security benefits, the formula which provides the highest benefit to the beneficiary will be used. This is very important since it affects the so-called Social Security "offset" of the Survivor Benefit Authority.

While Social Security has been in effect since 1937 it did not really apply to the military until 1 January 1957. Although a RUL 84-991—the Service's, etc., Survivor Benefits Act—military base pay became subject to Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) contributions, commonly called Social Security deductions.

When the military were brought into the Social Security program in 1957, only $4,200 of an individual's base pay was subject to FICA contributions with a maximum annual contribution of $94.20.

In 1975, the rate is $5.85 per $100 of base pay with a maximum of $1,400 of base pay.

In 1974 the rate also was $5.85 but it was limited to the first $3,200 of pay. This means that in 1975 many members of the Armed Forces will be paying $52.65 more, up to an annual total of $824.25.

The employer—DOE in case of military—matches the contribution. This is one of the reasons there is the Social Security Offset.

Social Security Offset

Social Security "offset" is provided in Public Law 92-425, enacted on 21 Sep
tember 1972, which established a new Survivor Benefit Plan.

The new Plan provides that the Retired Service Member's Family Protection Plan (SBF) (Continued on Page 23)

1975 Department Conventions

(Dates to Remember)

Mid-Winter Convention Washington, D.C. 19-22 February 1975

National Convention Town and Country Hotel, San Diego, Calif. 18-22 June 1975

Office of Civilian Affairs Conference

Falmouth Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans, La. 7-8 November 1975


50th National Convention Americana Hotel, Flagstaff, Ariz. 30 June-3 July 1976

Error Cuts Retired Pay Very Slightly—and Not Retroactively

AUS Officer of the Year 1975

Capt. Newman Shaver, building fund chair for the Department of Missouri and secretary-treasurer of the Harry S. Truman Chapter at Kansas City, has forwarded contributions of more than $500 to the Memorial Building Fund to boost the Department of Missouri "Over the Top." Missouri has become the 36th out of ROA's 55 departments to contribute at least an average of $25 per member, leaving only 19 not yet over that magic mark.

Captain Shaver reported that the Truman Chapter had voted to take from chapter funds the amount necessary to meet the challenge of $25 per member and that $500 was the result of this action, coupled with a number of individual contributions and the proceeds of a raffle recently held by the chapter, made it possible for the department to achieve its goal.

Included was a donation by Col. Earl F. Gaylord, of Independence, which earned him Silver Minute Man status.

Along with the building contributions came three additional ROA memberships.

12 The Officer February 1975

1975 Department Conventions

The following ROA Department convention dates had been reported to National HQ at press time.

April 4-5 IOWA, Des Moines

May 8-10 NEW JERSEY, McGuire AFB

May 24-26 PENNSYLVANIA, Carlisle Barracks

May 29-31 NORTH DAKOTA, Fargo

June 3-5 SOUTH CAROLINA, Columbia

June 21-23 TEXAS

July 19-21 WISCONSIN, Appleton (Conway Motor Inn)

August 16-17 IOWA, Des Moines

August 16-19 PENNSYLVANIA, Carlisle Barracks

August 23-26 NORTH DAKOTA, Fargo

August 27-30 SOUTH CAROLINA, Columbia

August 27-30 TEXAS

August 27-30 WISCONSIN, Appleton (Conway Motor Inn)
President Ford to Receive Top Award
At ROA's Biggest, Best Mid-Winter

Banquet Climax of Full Schedule
Expected to Draw Record 3,000

Reservations indicate that the 1975 ROA Mid-Winter Conference may draw the biggest attendance in the Association's history ($35 fee). On the observance of the 50th Anniversary of ROA in 1973, nearly 2,500 shared in the annual banquet when Speaker of the House Carl Albert was the major Honor Guest. This year reports indicate that this figure may be exceeded and could reach as high as 3,000.

ROA's membership has increased by more than 50 percent in the past two years, and is now pushing toward the goal of 100,000. Many attending this year probably will come from these first-year members.

Hilton Gets Room Requests

Headquarters will again be at the Washington Hilton Hotel, and room reservations requests should go directly to the hotel: Miss Casey Sturdevant, Reservations Manager, Washington Hilton Hotel, 1919 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D.C. 20009.

Registration fees for the ROA Conference should go to National Headquarters. The total cost of the banquet has been established at $47.50, but those meeting the deadline of 5 February are being given a $2 discount.

Special Events for ROTC

As for the past several years, the ROA Conference also will include an assembly of cadets and midshipmen from ROTC, NROTC and AFROTC units at the various colleges and universities throughout the nation. Lt. Col. Wes Santee, president of the Department of Kansas, is in charge of this conference, whose headquarters will be in the "State Reception on the Terraces" level of the Hilton Hotel.

The ROTC conference will be highlighted by a breakfast on Capitol Hill at which Armed Services Chairman F. Edward Hebert will be the guest speaker. The group numbering about 200 also will share in a special meeting with Defense and military leaders in the Pentagon.

ROA Agenda Interesting

As usual, the ROA Ladies' Clubs will share in the Mid-Winter meeting and arrangement of their one conference under National President Mrs. Michael V. Schado. For information about the ROA meeting, see the ROA page.

Stennis Will Make Minute Man Award
To President Ford

SEN. JOHN C. STENNIS

Himself a popular recipient of ROA's Minute Man Award, Sen. John C. Stennis, now the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, will act for ROA at the 21 February Mid-Winter banquet in making the award to Commander-in-Chief Ford.

Sen. Stennis received the award in 1966 in recognition of his outstanding service as chairman of the Senate Committee on Preparedness Investigations.

At the time his committee had just concluded investigation of the proposal to reduce the Reserve Forces by 150,000 and to merge the Army Reserve into the Army Guard.

This proposal was rejected by both House and Senate and Stennis was the recipient of the Minute Man Award for his efforts against this threat of aggression, of the indispensable requirement of strength and the assurance of freedom, and of the great American tradition of the Minute Man.

"Our Commander-in-Chief has himself served in uniform, sharing in the fierce combat which saved the Free World in the Second Great War."

"He knows how narrowly was our ultimate victory achieved. He knows that weakness at any time in history assures not peace but the danger of a challenge from potential enemies.

ROA has made its annual Minute Man Award in the past to 17 distinguished patriots. President Ford, fully as great a recipient of the award as any of the men who have been honored in the past.

(Continued on Page 31)

Ford's 18th to Receive ROA Award

President Gerald R. Ford, in receiving ROA's 1975 Minute Man Award, will be the 18th among outstanding citizens to be given this public acclamation.

This award has been made at each Mid-Winter banquet to these distinguished Americans:

1958: Brig. Gen. David Sarnoff, an internationally known Armaty Reservist who was head of RCA.

1959: Sen. Richard B. Russell, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, which has the Senate Appropriations Committee and later President pro tempore of the Senate.

(Continued on Page 30)
Gerald R. Ford, Minute Man of the Year

The life of Gerald R. Ford, highlighted in the photographs on this page, dramatically shows why he was destined for high office and why his selection by the Reserve Officers Association as its Minute Man of the Year was an eminently fitting choice.

Even his childhood was unusual for he was born on Bastille Day, 14 July 1913, and given a name, Leslie King, Jr., he no longer bears. His parents were divorced when he was only two, and he was given the name of the man who adopted him. His adoptive parents later had three natural sons, and a warm relationship exists between Gerald Ford and his half brothers, Tom (born in 1918), Dick (1924) and Jim (1927).

In school and college he distinguished himself scholastically, in sports and in Scouting. In the latter he rose to the coveted rank of Eagle, though he hadn't quite made Life Scout when the photo at left was taken. He was an honor student in high school, at the University of Michigan, where he earned his B.A. degree, and at Yale, where he obtained his law degree.

Football was only one of his sports. He was also on swimming, track and basketball teams. He won three varsity letters while a member of Michigan's undefeated national championship teams of 1932 and 1933; was named most valuable player in 1934 (when the photo below was taken). He swam daily until he moved to the White House and skis frequently with his family as the photo below shows.

Our cover photo, an official White House photograph, catches the President of the United States in a contemplative mood. We are grateful to the following for the photos on this page: Boy and dog, Detroit Free Press; Wedding and Freshman Congressman, Grand Rapids Press; Football player, Associated Press (all furnished by Cmdr. John Kwikert, USCGR); Scout photo, Ford family's album; Naval officer, President's naval service scrapbook; Inaugural, official photo (all furnished by Dave LeRoy from his book Gerald Ford—Untold Story).

Joining the Navy shortly after World War II began, Gerald Ford served 47 months, much of it aboard aircraft carrier Monterey (where top right photo was taken) in the Pacific. He was released from active duty in 1946 as a lieutenant commander.

Back in law and now engaged in politics, Gerald Ford was named in 1946 by the Junior Chamber of Commerce as one of “America's Ten Outstanding Young Men.” He was elected to Congress in 1948, three weeks after he and Elizabeth Bloomer, also of Grand Rapids, were married 15 October at Grace Episcopal Church, his home church. The photo at right shows him in his first month in Congress in January 1949.

In Congress, Rep. Ford won many honors, served on the Warren Commission (co-authoring Portrait of the Assassin,) was twice permanent chairman of Republican National Conventions, became Republican leader in 1965.

Nominated for Vice President by President Richard Nixon on 12 October 1973 to succeed Spiro Agnew, Gerald Ford won overwhelming confirmation with the support of Democrats and Republicans alike. He was sworn in as the nation's 38th Vice President on 6 December 1973. On 8 August 1974, President Nixon announced his resignation, and on 9 August, Gerald R. Ford was sworn in by Chief Justice Burger as 38th President of the United States.
Affiliation Program, Successful in '74, Expands This Year

Initial reaction to the affiliation program between active Army and Reserve components is favorable and enthusiastic, according to the Army Personnel Information Unit.

The affiliation program equips and trains Reserve battalions to deploy as part of active Army divisions in support of NATO. The basic objective of the program is to improve and sustain Reserve combat readiness—particularly at company and battalion level—to reduce significantly the post-mobilization time required to reach deployable status.

A two-track affiliation program began on 1 June 1974. Track I was a pilot program in which 21 Reserve components—meant to create and 5 Reserve field artillery battalions were affiliated with active Army divisions in Comus and Hawaii.

1974 Program Successes

During annual training in 1974, four active Army divisions and the Infantry, Armor, and Field Artillery Schools conducted, supported, and evaluated the training of 13 of the 26 battalions. The remaining 13 battalions conducted under Reserve component supervision but were closely monitored by the affiliated active Army division.

The 1974 annual training focused on achieving company-level proficiency. It included the initial phase of the training requirements of the affiliated battalions.

The Plan for 1975

Training programs for affiliated Reserve component units during the 1975 training year will be based on insights gained from the 1974 annual training. The initial phase of Track II, Training and Doctrine Command was tasked to find the practical limit to the number of maneuver and support units that can be controlled by a division in sustained combat.

Analysis determined the maximum upper limit in four brigades and 16 battalions. Forces Command then determined the number of additional non-regular units that can be affiliated with each division up to those limits.

Current Forces Command calls for the affiliation of 79 battalion-sized Reserve component units with active Army units. The affiliation plan will be utilized to develop the 1975 training plan, support and evaluate 32 of these battalions during 1975's annual training.

Administration, Congress Both Act To Increase Prices at Commissaries

Prices at commissary stores will be increased and the very existence of the state-side service supermarkets is threatened.

In one development, Defense and the Office of Management and Budget approved a proposal to make the stores absorb the cost of approximately 25,000 civilian employees through an increase in the mark-up.

This action came on the heels of a congressional refusal to build or modernize any more commissaries with tax money. Congress, instead, enacted a law authorizing the Service Secretaries to increase the mark-up on goods sold to pay for construction and modernization.

In taking these steps in connection with action on the fiscal 1975 construction authorization and appropriation acts, Congress said it has "no intention of denying commissaries to military personnel" and "would not look favorably on any plans to eliminate all the stores or raise prices unduly.

Fitzsimmons Command Stays with ROA-ers

Col. Theodore R. Sailer, Jr., a Colorado ROA member and Denver thoracic surgeon, has assumed command of the 348-man 5502 U.S. Army Hospital at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center.

A Vietnam veteran, he succeeds Col. Maurice D. Gaon, a longtime ROA member and past office holder, who has commanded the 5502d since 1963. Gaon is medical director at the Army's Rocky Mountain Arsenal.

Maj. Gen. Sterling R. Ryan, commander of the 96th Arcom, presented outgoing commander Gaon with the Legion of Merit during the unit's 1974 annual training.

Other ROA members receiving awards were Col. Gerald S. Marsh, the Meritorious Service Medal, and Col. Harold C. Light, the Army Commendation Medal.

Col. Gaon and Light retired from the USAR recently.

New Army Personnel Head

Harold G. Moore is the Army's new Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel and has been promoted from major general to lieutenant general. He was formerly commanding general of the Military Personnel Command at Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

"In the Army alone," House and Senate leaders said in bringing the final version of the construction authorization bill to their respective chambers,

"a surcharge of about 2 percent was envisioned. But the Defense-OBM action goes far beyond that. A "program budget decision" approved by Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger ditches about $424 million of the money which had been slated to support commissary operations for the two years beginning October 1973.

The plan calls for the stores to be about 50 percent self-supporting by October 1977 and about 100 percent by October 1977.

There will be exceptions to the self-support concept. Cost of management at Defense and Service headquarters level and of maintenance appears to be excluded. Pay of military personnel actually in the stores may not be affected. About 2,500 military people—many of them Navy men in see-going ratings—are in the stores.

Four Stores Rejected

The construction requests submitted to Congress called for a $3 million commissary at Fort Shafter, Calif., a $3.9 million one at Fort Bliss, Texas; and a $2.8 million one at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

All were denied by Congress.

The construction of 13.1 million for a commissary at Newport, R.I., as a special Navy. The Navy is using makeshift facilities there since its store burned down in January 1974. But in the final version of the construction money bill Newport was dropped too.

The Senate Appropriations Committee recommended that the construction at Newport be dropped too.
Hebert Protests SecDef's Attempt
To Shoot Down Navy Tactical Airlift

The system analyses people in the Department of Defense have persuaded the Secretary to abolish the Navy's tactical airlift and transfer its function to the MAC. A substantial proportion of the aircraft involved in giving this tactical support to the Fleet are in the Naval Air Reserve.

The Navy's tactical airlift is a very small part of the overall airlift requirements but is essential to meet urgent requirements. The Air Force did not initiate this proposal and the necessity for a separate tactical airlift was recognized by the Joint Chiefs and the Congress when the Reorganization Act of 1958 was enacted into law.

Chairman Hebert of the House Armed Services Committee, hearing the rumors, has written a strong protest to Defense Secretary James Schlesinger, reminding him the action—without approval of the Committee—would be illegal and demanding the Secretary's "personal advice and comments."

So that Navy ROAers will know of Congressman Hebert's quick response, his letter to SecDef is published here:

I have heard disquieting rumors concerning Department of Defense plans to directly and effect major changes in the roles and missions of the air components of each individual Military Department. As you are aware, the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, and the

Laffey's Condition and Her History,
DD Shortage Argue Her Retention

There is a possibility that the battle wise and combat-ready U.S.S. Laffey (DD724) may be stricken from the active list of Navy ships. This would be a severe blow to the Atlantic Fleet and to Naval Reserve Programs training in the Washington, D.C., area. It seems to ROA that U.S.S. Laffey, currently serving in Destroyer Squadron 30, is one of the better destroyers on the active list and, despite the years on her hull, she has been kept completely modern, and is one of the most combat-ready destroyers afloat. In fact, Naval authorities tell us the Laffey is in a much better state of material readiness than some destroyers on the active list with newer hulls. No one can remember when she has missed a fleet commitment.

In addition to normal fleet operations, Laffey has been serving as our Reserve Training ship in the Washington area doing an excellent job with hundreds of reserves. In fleet competition, the Laffey with her Reserve Crew during 1974 won the Battle Efficiency Trophy for the fourth consecutive time. Top awards were won in Gunnery systems for the fourth consecutive time and Engineering for the third consecutive time.

Military history books are filled with the battle achievements of this ship. She is a floating legend. She survived the largest kamikaze attack against a single ship during World War II. Her original crew members have started a fund for her enhancement when she is no longer useful as a combatant unit of the fleet.

Meanwhile, until her day of retirement, the Laffey carries more than her share of regular and reserve training responsibilities.

During her off-duty hours, Laffey has attracted visitors by the thousands. Last year over 13,000 visitors came to her berth in Alexandria.

The hard truth is that the Navy needs to retain on the active list highly versatile destroyers such as Laffey. It seems a shame and a waste that this fine destroyer should be stricken from the list of active ships while still a top-ranking destroyer in fleet competition when the Navy is so short in DD strength. While the striking of one destroyer may not seem like much of a loss, the loss of this particular ship with its many values to the Navy would be irreparable.

WOMEN IN THE NAVY have broadened their service to the Navy drastically from their almost purely clerical role of World War I. The Navy photo montage above shows only a few of their recent tasks aboard ship, ashore and in the air.

11th CG District Wins ROA's Waesche Award

The 11th Coast Guard District has won the Reserve Officers Association Admiral Russell R. Waesche Award. This award was established by the Washington Coast Guard Chapter many years ago. The winner is determined by a board appointed by the Naval Affairs Committee of Coast Guard Section.

The award is made to the district that excels in training of Reserve units and individuals in the development of overall readiness capability.

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The law further provides that either Committee may resolve to reject such proposed actions—"(1) proposes to transfer, reassign, consolidate, or abolish a major combatant function, power, or duty assigned to the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps by section 3062(b), 5012, 5013, or 8062(e) of this title; and"

"(2) would, in its judgment, tend to impair the performance of the Recruiting Service in the performance of its functions and duties as those functions and duties are defined by law."
AIR FORCE

RSO Program Expanded to Include 700 More Spaces in 22 AFSCs

Seventy-five additional spaces in 22 AFSCs have been opened for the Reserve Supplement Officer Program (RSO).

The program is designed to train Reserve officers in positions held by active duty rated officers who would be required to fly during national emergencies.

Originally started in December 1973, it was open only to officers in the self-maintained, procurement, civil engineer, personnel and intelligence fields. Some 500 officers were assigned to these positions.

Under the additional authorities, well-qualified officers in grades of captain to lieutenant colonel can now participate in the program in skills which range from disaster preparedness to security police.

RSO positions are in pay and training category B, which provides 24 paid training days per year and one active duty tour of 12 to 14 days each year.

MAC CinC Carlton
AF Luncheon Speaker
At ROA Mid-Winter

Gen. Paul K. Carlton, Commander-in-Chief, Military Air Force Command, will be the honored guest and speaker at the Air Force Section Luncheon on Thursday, February 20, in connection with the Mid-Winter Council Meeting.

The Air Force Section will be meeting all day on the 20th and in the afternoon of the 21st. Vise President Col. Billy M. Knowles and AF Affairs Committee Chairman Brig. Gen. Edward Dillon are putting together a program that will be of interest and benefit to officers in all elements of the AF Reserve.

The major advantage of the RSO program is that the Reserve train at the base nearest their home if the facilities are available.

The Officer Career Development Division at ARPC is directly involved in the selection of RSOs. Selection is on a competitive basis where the career planners designate the individual based on a thorough review of the officers' personnel records (OERs, participation, etc.).

Interested Reserves should complete AF Form 128, Application for Reserve Assignment, and AF Form 1644, Ready Reserve Agreement, and mail the forms to ARPC/DPR, 3800 York St., Denver, Colo. 80205.

The added AFSCs are in the following areas: disaster preparedness, air traffic control, weapons director, weather, firefighting, engineering, communications and electronics, aircraft maintenance, avionics, munitions, computer technology, transportation, supply services and fuels management.

Others are supply management, logistics plans and programs, accounting and finance, management analysis, legal, personnel and intelligence fields.

It is possible the ruling will be challenged in court.

The reduction is made from the Survivor Benefit Annuity by the agency which makes the payment. It is not deducted from the Social Security check.

As a matter of fact the Social Security people are not involved.

The subject is very important to remember that the offset applies only to military base pay after 1956.

What's Subject to FICA Tax?

To qualify for Social Security retirement/Survivor benefits the wage earner must be insured. An worker is anyone who is paid at least $5 in qualifying wages for a calendar quarter.

For the military only base pay for active duty or active duty and training are qualifying wages subject to FICA contribution.

For inactive duty pay for inactive duty pay, income which is also called active duty pay, is not to be included in your FICA consideration.

It is important to remember that the offset applies only to military base pay after 1956.

(Continued from Page 12)

for all military personnel who qualify for retired pay or survivor annuity after 1972. This includes Reserve who qualify for retired pays after age 60.

The purpose of the United States to provide a survivor benefit program for retired military personnel which complements the survivors benefits payable und er Social Security. The amount of benefit payable is based on only one dependent child or to a widow or widower at age 62 with at least one dependent child, therefore, will be reduced by the amount of Social Security benefit that would be payable to the widow, based solely upon military earnings after 1956.

Note that there is no offset in SBP payments for a widow who has more than one dependent child.

A special situation arises when a widow receives survivor benefits based upon her own earnings. The Department of Defense has ruled the offset applies because she would be eligible to a benefit based on her husband's service pay if she was not entitled to benefits based on her own earnings. This ruling is in spite of the clear legislative history which emphasizes, time and again, that only benefits attributed to military service are to be offset.

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AFROTC Grads To Go to Reserves

Because of reduced active Air Force officer requirements, more ROTC graduates will be going to the Reserve Forces in the spring of 1975 after a three-month active duty tour.

While last year such action was on a voluntary, as approved basis called "peer option," this year the action will be held on a selection basis. Board will be appointed to select those who will go on a full active duty tour and those to go to the Reserves. Not included in this process are ROTC scholarship students, who must, by law, serve a full active duty tour.

Positions will be open in units and in the Individual Mobilization Augmentation (IMA) program. Assignments to the Air National Guard are also authorized.

How many can actually be absorbed is now under study. Most will be in non-rated specialties. Some will be qualified for flight training, but the availability of pilot training slots for the Reserves is problematic at best. Then, too, the geographical problem is always present. Where these young men and women will find their post graduate civilian jobs in relation to Reserve assignment opportunities cannot be calculated at this time. This can be partly solved in that IMAs can train at the nearest AF or AF Reserve facility even though their actual assignment may be out of commuting range.

Nevertheless, this infusion of young blood can be expected to have a salutary effect on the AF Reserve forces.

Even Nome Gets A Bennington Flag As Sales Multiply

ROAL's patriotic project as announced back in October, of the sale of the Bennington Bi-Centennial flag, has caught fire nationally. More than 300 flags have been ordered, many from far-away places, and orders are continuing to be received daily.

One of the flags which ROAL sold has been presented to the Mayor of Nome, by C. J. Phillips of that city. There is the first of a dozen. ROAL's Mid-Winter Conference at the Washington Hilton, in Washington, D.C., 19-21 February.

On Thursday, 20 February, since our organization has historical and patriotic interests, we would like to make available for you, some parts and points of history. Planned is a "special" tour at the White House. It has been a few years since we were there. Our next stop will be General Robert E. Lee's Mansion and last but not least the interesting and historical stables of our nationally famous cuison plateau of the 3rd Infantry, with the last of the remaining U.S. Army horses and their dedicated soldier caretakers.

Our annual Mid-Winter Luncheon is to be held at the Fort Myer Officers' Club. Again, history will come to life with the presentation of our National Colors, by the 3rd Infantry's "Commander-in-Chief's Guard," and the famous "Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps," as they perform in their splendid outfit of Revolutionary War uniforms. We shall revive the "Spirit of '76!"

All ladies, whether members or not, are most cordially invited to join us in all of the planned activities.

On Friday morning, 21 February, we will have our Mid-Winter business session. The highlight of the evening of the last day will be the gala reception, banquet and ball to be held with ROA. The full agenda for the ROAL meet is being printed in the January Officer. Starting time of the tour, however, has been moved up an hour.

The bus will leave the hotel at 7:30 a.m., instead of 8:30 a.m., and the White House tour will begin at 8 instead of 9 a.m.

Registration will begin at 2 p.m., 19 February, instead of noon.

ROAL Gets Punch Bowl

Back in the days when many of our Reserve officers and families were stationed in Europe and the USA, there was both a Department of Europe ROA and ROAL, the ladies bought a beautiful silver punch bowl in Europe. It was at the National Convention in Atlanta where this beautiful silver punch bowl was given to National ROAL. It has been polished and will be on display in the ROAL Suite during the Mid-Winter Council.

Women, Blacks in ROTC Help Army Pull in New Leaders

The ROTC is giving Army the minority members it needs and wants, says a top program officer.

Brig. Gen. Wilfrid K. G. Smith, TRADOC deputy chief of staff for ROTC, says the Army efforts to bring added minority members for both the Regular and Reserve Army are getting results through the college ROTC program.

Figures he offered show that at the start of the 1973-74 academic year, 22.3 percent of ROTC cadets at 290 colleges were identified as minority group members. Total enrollment was then 33,000. Blacks made up 17.2 percent of the total.

General Smith said the '73-'74 figure was a vast improvement over the past few years.

Still he stressed that the Army must continue to attract minority members. Smith says the officer corps should be "more representative of the Army's ethnic composition."

The ROTC official says the Army also needs more women, and the ROTC program for them is moving along.

In 1972 a test program was launched at 10 colleges, and now some 3,300 women are enrolled in ROTC.

In Army Junior ROTC, female enrollment is expected nearly to double next year to 42,400.

In an effort to bolster high school girls' interest in ROTC, a new uniform has been designed. This is replacing a mixture of clothing now worn.

While ROTC is blossoming again, because the size of the armed services have forced some ROTC graduates to postpone or cancel active duty plans. Last year, Smith says, 1,500 ROTC graduates had left for the past two years of active duty had to change their plans.

Part of the plan for polishing ROTC includes a program to allow young EMs with two years of college and a year of active-duty to apply for ROTC scholarships. If successful they must complete two years of advanced Army ROTC plus earn a college degree before age 25.

CIR-its plans and some of the problems she is facing at a meeting of the San Francisco Area chapter of ROA attended by Gen. James E. Frank, president of the InterAllied Confederation of Reserve Officers (left), and ROA National President Ted Sorsness.

NATIONAL, STATE, COUNTY ROAL presidents are pictured as they attended the recent Department of Maryland ROA and ROAL annual meeting at National Headquarters. From left they are Mrs. Bernard Levin, president of the Central Maryland ROAL Club; Mrs. Michael V. Schado, president of the Montgomery County ROAL Club; and Mrs. Robert Wright, president of the Montgomery County ROAL Club.

February 1975 The Officer 25
State-Wide Parley on Reserve Role
Set by Pennsylvania Department

Plans for a statewide conference on a new, stronger role for reserve forces in national defense have been announced by the Pennsylvania Department of the Reserve Officers Association.

The call for a meeting 18 January at Fort Washington, Montgomery County, was issued by Lt. Col. Herfur T. Larsen, USAFR, department president.

"If Reserves are to be used, more than they must be given valid missions, modern equipment and weapons systems and the best training available," Colonel Larsen said.

The Air Force veteran told the Department's 4,400 members, representing Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and Marine officers, "hopeful signs of change are visible in Reserve training areas."

Cheb Named Florida Judge
Lt. Col. John M. Schab, USAFR, vice president of ROA Chapter 8, has been appointed a judge on the 2nd District Court of Appeals, Lakeland, by Florida Governor Reubin Askew. Colonel Schab is a Mobilization Designer in the Judge Advocate Section at MacDill AFB. Active in Scouting, in which he holds the high Silver Beaver award, he also was past president of his Kiwanis Club.

Stennis Gets New Honor
Chairman John C. Stennis of the Senate Armed Services Committee has been chosen to receive the James Forrestal Memorial Award of the National Security Council Industrial Association for 1974. The Mississippian is being honored for his "wisdom, character and integrity" and his work for national defense in 27 years of Congressional service.

All-day meetings in the Sheraton Madison Inn will be addressed by Col. John T. Carter, the association's executive director; Joseph E. McCullen, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve; and Lt. Gen. William Pearson, USA (Ret.), superintendent of Valley Forge Military Academy.

Reps. C. F. Fisher (right) got his ROA Distinguished Service Citation after it was announced that Col. A. A. Brackett, ROA Director of Air Force Affairs, made a special Christmas Eve visit to make the presentation to the retiring Texas Congressman. The presentation had been planned for the Texas Department convention but Mr. Fisher was unable to attend. The 32-year Congressional veteran was chairman of the important Armed Services Subcommittee on Reserve and Military Personnel Matters and was a strong advocate of adequate defense and Reserve forces.

Col. Veezey Named ROA Secretary-General, ROA US
Col. Harold A. Veezey, past president of the ROA Department of the District of Columbia, has been appointed by National President Sorenson as the ROA/US Assistant Secretary-General for the CHOR. This is a non-salaried position.

Colonel Veezey, for the past several years, has worked as a volunteer in many CHOR activities in National Headquarters and was one of the active commissioners who staged the 25th Anniversary Congress of the CHOR in Washington, D.C., in 1972, simultaneously with the observance of ROA's 50th Anniversary.

In his new position he will continue to handle ROA matters relating to CHOR which will hold its 75th Congress in Greece.

Woman Heads Chapter
Cdr. Mary Anne Lewis, USNR, has been elected president of Philadelphia Navy Chapter for 1975—"the second woman to head the predominantly male organization of more than 200 Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps officer Retirees."

She succeeds Capt. Daniel H. Brant, USCGR.


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Chapter Charters

Brooklyn Armed Services Chaplaincy 1700 Broadway

ROA Honor Roll


Indiana Adopted Membership Plan

Officers of all armed forces met in Indianapolis the last week of December for the Mid-Winter Conference and Council meeting of the Indiana Department of the Reserve Officers Association.

Feather speaker at the Air Force reserve section meeting was Lt. Col. Thomas Olson, Air Force flight test representative at Air Allison Div., General Motors, Indianapolis facility. Colonel Olson discussed the Air Force's relationship with its Reserve Force component. "The film which outlined development of the new F-15 fighter." A guest speaker for the Army section meeting was Capt. Stephen Campbell, USA (Ret.), who presented a "Talk on Vietnam."

The establishment of the Naval Reserve Readiness Centers, Indianapolis, was outlined by Capt. John F. Martin, USNRF-1, at the Navy session meeting.

The key-note address was presented by Col. Joseph T. Foud, commandant of the Army Reserve Personnel Center, Denver, Colo.

Col. Joseph A. Thomas, vice commandant of the Central Army Reserve Force Region presided. Colonel Thomas, an Indiana native and a former member of the 443th Tactical Fighter Wing and commanding officer of the 910th Tactical Fighter Groups, Grissom AFB.

A new ROA membership plan for Indiana was unveiled at the meeting. Developed by a joint committee membership, chaired by Col. T. Ray Tucker, USAR, the plan calls for chapter recognition in the form of trophies to be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd individual chapter, chapter with the greatest net percent gain in membership. The time period involved is 1 April 1974 to 31 March 1975. A service trophy will be awarded to the branch of the Armed Forces growing the greatest gain.

Individual recognition will be provided for the two top individuals for membership growth.

The Longtimers Club

50 YEARS
Lt. Col. Howard Carter, Jr., USAR (Ret.) Perkins, Ohio

45 YEARS

Chapter Charters

Brooklyn Armed Services Chaplaincy 1700 Broadway


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You Can Convert Multiple-Year To Life Membership in ROA

The National Executive Committee approved a procedure through which ROA members may apply unexpiring multiple year dues to life membership. The procedure permits that "each remaining full year of paid-up membership may be applied toward a life membership in a direct ratio of average cost per year of the membership." Under the provisions contained in the committee's decision, members who have one or more full years remaining on a multiple year membership may apply their time on a life membership.

Life membership fees may be paid in lump sum or may be paid on a deferred basis. If deferred member wishes to make his payments on a deferred basis they may do so by submitting with his application a note in the amount of 80% along with an initial payment of 20% of the applicable fees. The note shall be payable in four equal annual amounts on the principal. Interest on such notes was abolished by the ROA 1974 National Convention.

Life membership fees are an amount determined by the member's age at his last birthday as shown in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 35 years</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 49 years</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 to 60 years</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 to 70 years</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 70 years</td>
<td>$350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Here are convenient forms you can clip out and send in:

APPLICATION FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Name
(Please print)

Rate and Service
Date of Birth

(Signature)

Address

February 1975

ChnC's Attendance Will Be His Third To ROA Functions

(Continued from Page 14)

17 Other Americans Previously Received Minute Man Award

(Continued from Page 14)

Behnke

Gettysburg, Pa.

O'Gara

Kristiann, Wis.

Gibbons

Los Angeles, Calif.

Izasa

Pollock

Kimmel

Lott

New Report Shows Reserve Total Drop

With a decrease in the total numbers of Army Reserve Officers per July, a Defense report indicates.

The total numbers in the October report held the four months at 93.9 thousand. The last two digits were not shown in the Defense estimate of end-of-October figures.

A comparison of the October end strengths with those of 30 June 1974, published in the January Officer shows these other changes:

Army Reserve—231 thousand as compared with 238 thousand.

Air Force Reserve—455 thousand as compared with 468 thousand.

Naval Reserve—31,1 thousand as compared with 32,9 thousand.

The October strengths of the six Selectively Received Reserve was 904,9 thousand as compared with 926 thousand.

New York, N.Y.

Des Moines, Ia.

Fort Worth, Texas

San Antonio, Tex.

Miami, Fla.

Chicago, Ill.

Toledo, Ohio

Los Angeles, Calif.

Burlington, Vt.

Aurora, Ohio

Lodi, Cali.

San Luis Obispo, Calif.

Sacramento, Calif.


Maj. Warren L. Helst

USAF (Ret.), Fort Worth, Texas

Ens. Fred Hoyte

USNR, N. Shapleigh, Me.

Lt. Cmdr. Samuel M. Lathan

USAF (Ret.), Brookline, Mass.

Col. Arthur H. Larkins

USAF, San Antonio, Calif.

Lt. Col. Ben A. Lee

USAF, Dayton, Ohio

Capt. Robert L. Lanham

USAF, San Antonio, Tex.

Lt. Col. Richard A. McFarland

USAF, R. Denver, Colo.

Capt. James M. McCoy

USAF, Jackson, Miss.

Capt. Albert B. Merseh

USAM, Mobile, Ala.

J. Bluart Moffett

USAF, Rockford, Ill.

Maj. Frank H. Mollica

USAF, Savannah, Md.

W. Walter C. Money

AUS (Ret.), Cape Coral, Fla.

Lt. Col. Ellis Moore

USAM, Atlanta, Ga.

Lt. Col. Robert K. Moore

USAF (Ret.), Caldwell, Idaho

Lt. Col. H. B. Moore

USAF, New York, N.Y.

Lt. Col. Lauren G. Mullrin

USAR (Ret.), Newington, Md.

Cdr. Russ, R. Rush

USAM, Honolulu, Hawaii

Col. Mark J. Schroeder

USAF, East Grand Forks, Minn.

Lt. Col. Robert J. Markell

USAF (Ret.), Lillington, N.C.

Cdr. Hubert E. Ulmer

USNR-N. Atlanta, Ga.

Lt. Col. William P. Upton, Jr

USAF, Bradenton, Fla.

Col. Gilbert H. Winter

USAF (Ret.), San Francisco, Calif.

Col. Ward E. Woodridge

USAF, Minneapolis, Minn.

Col. Roy B. Humpolec

USAF, Pasadena, Calif.

Col. R. A. Hoffman

USAF, Pasadena, Calif.
Why pay more for life insurance than you have to!

Now you can save an additional 15 to 35% on term life insurance

ROA’s Group Term Life Insurance Plan has always been an economical way for our members to obtain insurance protection at low group rates. And now ROA’s plan is even more attractive. Effective February 1, 1975, you can buy up to $50,000 of group term life insurance—at rates that are as much as 35% lower.

Bigger benefits than SGLI—at competitive rates

ROA worked hard last year to get full-time insurance protection for drilling reservists, and for those retired reservists under age 60 with 20 years of qualifying service. In most cases, you can’t beat those government rates (at $2.04 to $4.08 per thousand) for up to $20,000 of term life insurance through SGLI (Servicemen’s Group Life Insurance)—unless you’re an ROA member!

Even if you’re a drilling reservist under age 35, ROA’s term insurance plan costs less than Uncle Sam’s program for the same insurance protection! And if you’re in the retired reserve and under age 45, our rates are still lower ($3.59 vs. $4.80 per thousand) than what the federal government charges.

After age 50, ROA’s coverage costs more, admittedly, than SGLI. But you can obtain twice as much protection—up to $40,000 to augment your regular insurance. And when your SGLI coverage terminates at age 50, your ROA coverage continues to age 70. That’s why you should consider the combination of ROA and SGLI in planning your family’s financial protection—with up to $70,000 combined coverage at rates you can afford.

To find out more about ROA’s improved Group Life Insurance Plan, just clip, fold, and mail the special coupon below. No postage necessary. With the new rates effective February 1st, don’t miss this opportunity to send for all the facts now!
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 3, 1975

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: TED MARRS
FROM: JERRY H. JOHNS

The copy of the magazine, THE OFFICER, you sent to the President has been returned with the following notation to you:

--Thanks/excellent.

cc: Don Rumsfeld