



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

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DMVA Weekly Highlights

20 December 2002

Joint Chief of Staff, COL (Ret) Michael B. Smith

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FOR THE FOURTH YEAR, THE NATIONAL GUARD MILITIA MUSEUM AND ST. DENIS CHURCH IN MANASQUAN TEAMED UP TO PROVIDE GIFTS FOR THE VETERANS AT MENLO PARK.

GOVERNOR MCGREEVEY VISITED THE NEW JERSEY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD FLIGHT FACILITY AT MERCER COUNTY AIRPORT TO THANK GUARDSMEN AND PARTICIPATE IN OPERATION SANTA.

THE NEW JERSEY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ANNOUNCES PERSONNEL CHANGES.

NEW JERSEY DEVILS DONATE 500 FREE TICKETS TO THE NEW JERSEY NATIONAL GUARD FOR THE 18 DECEMBER GAME AGAINST THE OTTAWA SENATORS.

THE NEW JERSEY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD EXCEEDS THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU STANDARDS IN THE CATEGORIES OF NO VAL PAY AND EXPIRED ETS PERCENTAGES FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE MONTH.

THE UNITED STATES ARMY SERGEANTS MAJOR ACADEMY (USASMA), QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICE (FORT BLISS, TEXAS) CONDUCTED A NCOES ACCREDITATION VISIT ON THE 254th REGIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE (RTI) 5-8 DECEMBER 2002.

NEW JERSEY ASSEMBLYMAN JACK CONNORS VISITED THE DEPARTMENT'S NEW HOMELAND SECURITY/CENTER OF EXCELLENCE.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL AND VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL PRESENTATION CEREMONIES ARE SCHEDULED.

THE DEDICATED VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS OF THE DIVISION OF VETERANS PROGRAMS PROUDLY REPORT EARLY FISCAL YEAR 2003 STATISTICS.

ARMORY HAPPENINGS - CHECK TO SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING AT AN ARMORY NEAR YOU.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS!!!

FOR THE FOURTH YEAR, THE NATIONAL GUARD MILITIA MUSEUM AND ST. DENIS CHURCH IN MANASQUAN TEAMED UP TO PROVIDE GIFTS FOR THE VETERANS AT MENLO PARK. Over 200 cut out stars, provided by the Militia Museum, were attached to the Christmas Giving Tree at St. Denis with a notation on each one naming a gift for a veteran. All of the stars disappeared, and almost 300 gifts arrived back. The gaily wrapped gifts filled the Menlo Park van

that came to pick up the presents. Some of the gifts this year included three 13" televisions, a walker, personal CD players, board games, and clothing.

GOVERNOR MCGREEVEY VISITED THE NEW JERSEY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD FLIGHT FACILITY AT MERCER COUNTY AIRPORT TO THANK GUARDSMEN AND PARTICIPATE IN OPERATION SANTA. The Governor thanked members of the Army National Guard for their continued support of the New Jersey Homeland Security effort and for their continued commitment to peacekeeping missions around the world. Governor McGreevey presented gifts for Operation Santa, which provides toys and needed items for needy children.

THE NEW JERSEY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ANNOUNCES PERSONNEL CHANGES.

COL Ronald Cefalone	Deputy USPFO
COL Edward A. Slavin	G7, Chief Facility Mgmt/CFMO
COL John Dwyer	USPFO, Supply Mgmt Office
COL Charles Ragucci	G4
LTC Dennis Devery	CDR, Det 4 RRM
LTC Roberta Niedt	PAO
LTC Rand Danielson	S2/3, 57 th TRP CMD (MIL)
LTC Roberta Niedt	CDR, 50 PSB (MIL)
MAJ Daniel Kratz	Deputy, G1
COL Larry Stroud	Retire

These officers will begin working in their new positions between 1 January 03 - 1 March 03. COL Larry Stroud will retire on 30 June 03.

NEW JERSEY DEVILS DONATE 500 FREE TICKETS TO THE NEW JERSEY NATIONAL GUARD FOR THE 18 DECEMBER GAME AGAINST THE OTTAWA SENATORS. 250 tickets were gone within two hours of the e-mail notice being sent out. Who says no one reads the e-mails? We thank the Devils organization for their generosity and their patriotism.

THE NEW JERSEY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD EXCEEDS THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU STANDARDS IN THE CATEGORIES OF NO VAL PAY AND EXPIRED ETS PERCENTAGES FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE MONTH. Our No Val Pay percentage for the month of November 2002 was 0.76%. The National Guard Bureau goal is <2%. Our Expired ETS percentage was 0.9%. The National Guard Bureau goal is <1%.

THE UNITED STATES ARMY SERGEANTS MAJOR ACADEMY (USASMA), QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICE (FORT BLISS, TEXAS) CONDUCTED A NCOES ACCREDITATION VISIT ON THE 254TH REGIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE (RTI) 5-8 DECEMBER 2002. Results of the evaluation were the 154th Regiment (CA), NCO Academy received a recommendation of "fully accredited." The Academy's strengths were: professional and dedicated staff, faculty, and small group leaders; equal opportunity program and training; master vault files, MWR facilities; instructor records; and the Evaluation Team specifically commended SGT Jessica Paris and MSG John Martin. COL Robert Watson, 254th RTI Commander, recognizes the General Studies Battalion Commander, LTC James Grant, and his staff, and the NCO Commandant, CSM Louis Dulfer, and staff for their dedication and efforts.

NEW JERSEY ASSEMBLYMAN JACK CONNORS VISITED THE DEPARTMENT'S NEW HOMELAND SECURITY/CENTER OF EXCELLENCE on Wednesday, 18 December 2002. Assemblyman Connors, who is Chair of the Assembly's Military and Veterans Affairs Committee,

toured our new state-of-the-art facility and met with BG Rieth and Col Morgan to discuss military and veteran issues.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AND VIETNAM SERVICE MEDALS PRESENTATION CEREMONIES ARE SCHEDULED.

14 Jan - 1100 hrs.	Vietnam Service Medal	Bordentown Armory
16 Jan - 1100 hrs.	Distinguished Service/ Meritorious Service Medal	Woodstown Armory

THE DEDICATED VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS (VSO) OF THE DIVISION OF VETERANS PROGRAMS PROUDLY REPORT EARLY FISCAL YEAR 2003 STATISTICS. During the first six months of FY 2003 the VSOs assisted 6,564 veterans and their families during in-office visits. Their hard work resulted in our state's veteran community receiving \$18,696,240 from Washington, DC. Hearty and well-deserved congratulations go to our Veterans Service Officers for the outstanding job they do assisting New Jersey's veteran community.

ARMORY HAPPENINGS - CHECK TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING AT AN ARMORY NEAR YOU.

16-19 Jan	Tool Show	Cherry Hill Armory
18-19 Jan	Dog Show	Vineland Armory
16-20 Jan	Home Design & Landscape Show	Morristown Armory
23-24 Jan	Antique Show	Morristown Armory
23-26 Jan	Tool Show	Lawrenceville Armory
25 Jan	Medieval Festival	Westfield Armory
28 Jan - 2 Feb	Tool Show	Mount Holly

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! --- The holidays are a time for sharing with family and friends. By working together every day we become a family, and our family ties at DMVA are strong. Each of us shares in the Department's mission of serving our veterans, state, and nation. Together we help to ensure that our state and nation are safe, and that our veterans' community is well cared for. As 2002 draws to a close, we extend to you and the members of your families our best wishes for a joyous holiday season, and may each of you be blessed with health, prosperity, and peace in the New Year.

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