

WISCONSIN STATE
LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

1997-98

[session year]

Assembly

[Assembly, Senate or Joint]

Committee on
Veterans and
Military Affairs
(AC-VMA)

Sample:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt01a
- 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt01b
- 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt02

➤ Appointments ... Appt

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➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

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➤ Committee Hearings ... CH

➤ **

➤ Committee Reports ... CR

➤ **

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

➤ **

➤ Hearing Records ... HR

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➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

➤ **97hr_AC-VMA_Misc_pt07**

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

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Bridging the Gap

Through Community Service

Veterans are a **VITAL RESOURCE**
for every community.



**WISCONSIN VFW HEADQUARTERS
MADISON, WI**

Within easy walking distance of the State Capitol, 214 N. Hamilton St., Madison, WI is the Wisconsin VFW State Headquarters. A visit there also gives our visiting members a chance to confer face to face with their legislators. In Madison, WI, just as in Washington, D.C., the VFW Organization is respected by legislators for their "Telling it like it is stance."

For one hundred years the VFW has stood as the bulwark against the erosion of veterans rights and entitlements. Now this premiere veteran's organization stands ready to continue that fight into the next millennium. Ranked in the top twenty-five of the nation's most effective lobbying groups (the only veterans organization rated that high), the VFW vows to continue its fight for the nation and its veterans.

Membership

—Current Size: 2.1 million members

—War Service: World War II, 1.1 million • Korean War, 441,000 • Vietnam War, 504,000. Remainder from Haiti, Somalia, Persian Gulf War, Grenada, Panama, Lebanon and many other expeditionary campaigns and occupation duties.

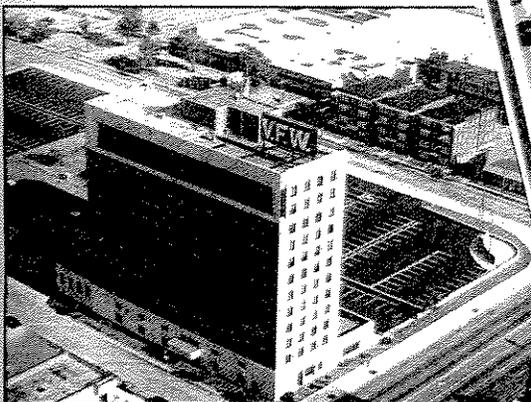
—Eligibility: VFW membership is available to all U.S. citizens, honorably discharged from the U.S. armed forces and active duty personnel who have earned an overseas campaign medal. (Note: A 1995 VFW Congressional Charter amendment makes eligible all those who have served 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days on the Korean peninsula or in its territorial waters from June 30, 1949 until the present day.)



**TO BECOME
A MEMBER,
CALL
1-608-255-6655.**

VFW NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS KANSAS CITY, MO

National Headquarters, located at 34th and Broadway in Kansas City, MO. Situated in the Heartland of America, our National Headquarters is geographically centered so as to be able to serve both the east and west with a minimum of lost mail time. We also maintain a presence in our nation's capital.





CLIFF BORDEN

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: United States Army Security Agency (ASA), 501st Communications Reconnaissance Group, Seoul, Korea.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Korean Service Medal w/2 Campaign Stars, U.N. Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation. (During Vietnam Era Active Duty, USAR and ARNG service), 2d award of NDSM, Army Service Ribbon, Highest rank (Korea Svc)-SSGT (E-5)
3. Your occupation today: Retired Colonel, Army of the U.S. (1990). Retired Employee, Wisconsin Dept. Veterans Affairs



CHARLES ARNDT

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: USN - USS Guam.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: 2 Battle Stars - Philippine Liberation Victory Medal, Fireman 1st Class.
3. Your occupation today: Sec. of State Board on Aging and Long-Term Care.

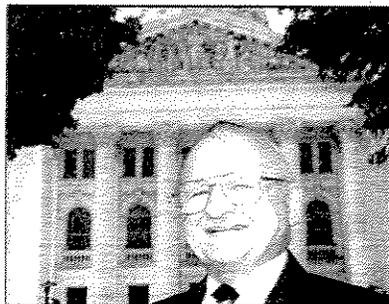


STEPHEN L. NASS

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: Air National Guard - 128th Air Refueling Wing, Milwaukee, WI, Desert Storm.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Southwest Asia Service Medal. * Still active in Air Guard - MSGT.
3. Your occupation today: State Legislator - 31st Assembly District.

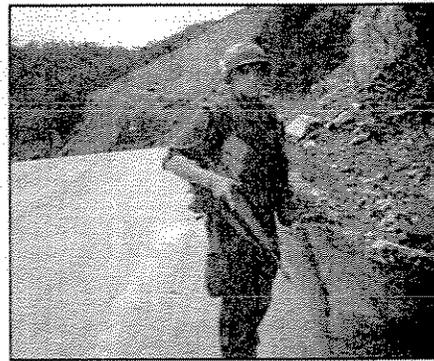
JOHN RYBA

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: Air National Guard - U.S. Army, 5th Army Combat Engineers - Korea.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Korean War Medal, Sharp Shooter, 5th Army Combat Engineer, Corporal.
3. Your occupation today: Wisconsin State Representative, 90th Assembly District.



BILL CROWLEY, CVSO

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: U.S. Marine Corps, 1st Marine Division and 3rd Marine Division, Viet Nam
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Corporal. When I volunteered for service in the USMC it was in service to my country and the cause of freedom, not for any self-gratification of self-aggrandizement. Therefore, I see no reason to list any medals or awards for the above service or for my continuing military service since that time.
3. Your occupation today: CVSO - Columbia County, Life member VFW Post 2336.



SENATOR DAVE ZIEN

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: USMC, L Co. 3-4, 3d Marine Division, Vietnam.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal w/2 bronze stars; Vietnam Campaign Medal w/device; RVN Cross of Gallantry w/palm & frame; Combat Action Ribbon; Sergeant/E-5.
3. Your occupation today: State Senator, 23rd District & Chair, Senate Veterans & Military Affairs Committee.

JOHN SCOCOS

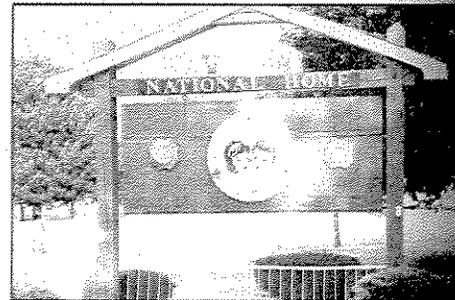
1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: United States Army - Service in the Republic of South Korea.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Meritorious Service Medal, Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Currently the rank of Major.
3. Your occupation today: Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs - Executive Assistant.

TEDDY L. DUCKWORTH

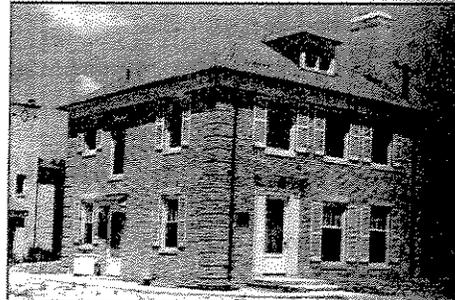
1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: United States Marine Corps, HMM 163 July '62 to Sept. '63, and HMM 163 from Oct. '64 to Oct. '65, HMM 361 Oct. '65 to Dec. '65 in RVN.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Purple Heart, 13 Air Medals, Presidential Unit Citation, Combat Air Crew Wings, National Defense Serv., Good Conduct. Obtained the rank of Sergeant E-5.
3. Your occupation today: Juneau County Veterans Service Officer.

EINAR H. INGMAN

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: 17 Inf. Regimental Combat Team, 7th Div. Army, Korea, 1950 & 1951.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Medal of Honor, 2 Purple Hearts, Korean Service Medal w/3 bronze stars, Good Conduct Medal, Pres. Unit Citation, Combat Infantryman Badge.
3. Your occupation today: Retired (32) years at Owens Illinois Forestry Division.



Sign at the National Home Gate



Dept. of Wisconsin Unit V.F.W. National Home

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TO BECOME A MEMBER, CALL 1-608-255-6655.

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SENATOR DAVE ZIEN

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: USMC, I. Co. 3-4, 3d Marine Division, Vietnam.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal w/2 bronze stars; Vietnam Campaign Medal w/device; RVN Cross of Gallantry w/palm & frame; Combat Action Ribbon; Sergeant/E-5.
3. Your occupation today: State Senator, 23rd District & Chair, Senate Veterans & Military Affairs Committee.

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TERRY MUSSER

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: HHC, 1st Bdc (ABN) 1st Cav. (Amb) 1965; Sig. Co. 173d ABN Bdc (Sep) 1967, Republic of Vietnam, U.S. Army.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Airborne, ARCOM, CIB, E-4.
3. Your occupation today: Farmer - Legislator (WI State Representative, 92nd Assembly District), Chmn. of the Assembly Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs.

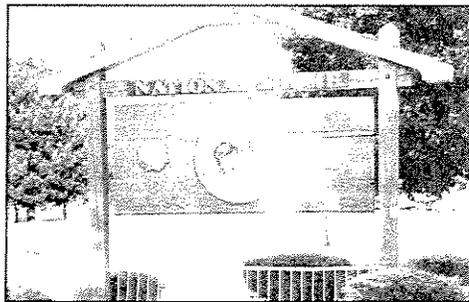
- KENNETH E. STUMPF**
1. Branch of service and outfit served in overseas to earn your eligibility: U.S. Army - 4th and 1st Inf. Div.
 2. Medals and awards earned rank attained: Medal of Honor, Bronze Stars, Air Medal, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Gold Star, M/Sgt.
 3. Your occupation today: Ret U.S. Army. Now a Drill Sergeant at a boot camp for boys 15 years old, who are convicted criminals.



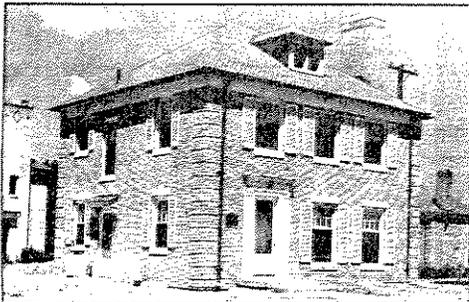
- RICHARD SKIDRUD**
1. Branch of service and outfit served in overseas to earn your eligibility: Army, 4th Inf. Div., 1st Cav., Co. D.
 2. Medals and awards earned: rank attained: Spec. 4th Class.
 3. Your occupation today: Wisconsin State Legislator, 79th Assembly District.

- FERNANDO RODRIQUEZ**
1. Branch of service and outfit served in overseas to earn your eligibility: USMC - 1st Marine Division Mike Co. 3/5 Vietnam 68. Retired from combat for wounds received in combat.
 2. Medals and awards earned rank attained: L/Col., National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal w/1 star; Vietnam Campaign Medal w/device; Purple Heart.
 3. Your occupation today: DV Veterans Representative.

- JOHN R. REYNOLDSON**
1. Branch of service and outfit served in overseas to earn your eligibility: Army, Infantry, 7th Infantry Division, 17th Regt., Cha Company, 3rd Platoon, Korea.
 2. Medals and awards earned rank attained: Silver Star, Purple Heart, Korean Service, United Nations Service, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Parachutist's Rifle Platoon Leader.
 3. Your occupation today: Ret school teacher.



Sign at the National Home Gate



Dept. of Wisconsin Unit V.F.W. National Home

To Care for His Widows and Orphans

When Amy Ross appeared in Dr. Clarence L. Candler's Department of Michigan Commander's Office one cold and windy February afternoon in 1922, it pointed out an area that had been overlooked in the veteran's group. An area, as President Abraham Lincoln so aptly put it, "The widows and orphans of he who has borne the battle." Although Amy's dream was larger than could be handled by the Department of Michigan alone, it was taken up by the national VFW organization. Amy would not live to see her dream accomplished. On November 21, 1924, just fifteen days before the final papers were signed, Amy Ross died.

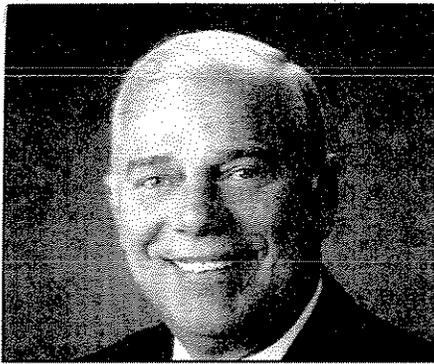
Less than two months after the articles of incorporation of the VFW National Home were signed, a mishap in Detroit gave the fledgling home its first occupants. Retired Army Sergeant Edward Pollert, while in Detroit to pick up his retirement check, was hit by a street car and killed. Because his pension ceased with his death, his widow and six children were left destitute.

Post 1146 of Halfway, Michigan, where the Pollert family resided, contacted State Commander Candler and arrangements to move them to the recently acquired home were made.

By March 9, 1925 the Pollert family was settled in the one house that made up the living quarters of the now VFW National Home. From that modest beginning, the VFW National Home of today has 30 states maintaining one or more cottages. During these 65 years, the Home has taken to its heart and cared for many of its members' orphans.

CALL 1-608-255-6655.

TO BECOME A MEMBER, C



TERRY MUSSER

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: HHC, 1st Bdc (ABN) 1st Cav. (Amb) 1965; Sig. Co. 173d ABN Bdc (Sep) 1967, Republic of Vietnam, U.S. Army.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Airborne, ARCOM, CIB, E-4.
3. Your occupation today: Farmer - Legislator (WI State Representative, 92nd Assembly District), Chmn. of the Assembly Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs.



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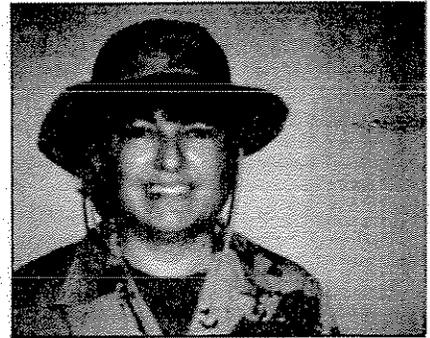
Less than two months after the articles of incorporation of the VFW National Home were signed, a mishap in Detroit gave the fledgling home its first occupants. Retired Army Sergeant Edward Pollett, while in Detroit to pick up his retirement check, was hit by a street car and killed. Because his pension ceased with his death, his widow and six children were left destitute.

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KENNETH E. STUMPF

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: U.S. Army - 4th and 25th Inf. Div.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Medal of Honor, 3 Bronze Stars, Air Medal, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Gold Star, M/Sgt.
3. Your occupation today: Retired U.S. Army. Now a Drill Sergeant at a boot camp for boys 14-17 years old, who are convicted felons.



MARY ANN ROHDE

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: Wisconsin Army National Guard - Det. 2, 13th Evacuation Hospital.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: E4/SpC. (Rank at that time), Medals or Ribbons: Wis. National Guard Southwest Asia Service Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal.
3. Your occupation today: Unit Admin. Tech. for HHC 397th Engr. Battalion.

RICHARD SKIDRUD

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: Army, 4th Inf. Div., 10th Cav. Co. D.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Spec. 4th Class.
3. Your occupation today: Wisconsin State Legislator, 79th Assembly District.



TED FETTING (on the right)

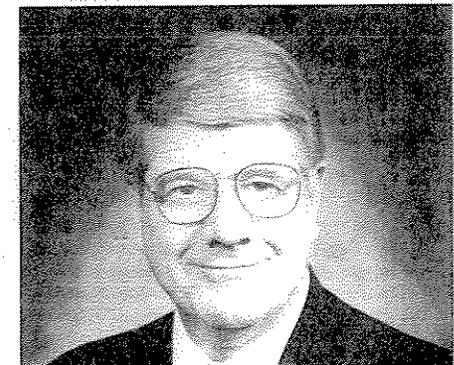
1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: 2/60th 9th Infantry Division, Army, Vietnam 1967-1968, Machine Gunner.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Purple Heart with 2 oak leaf clusters, Combat Infantry Badge, Star of Gallantry, Bronze Star, among others.
3. Your occupation today: Director, Veterans Service Office, Milwaukee County.

FERNANDO RODRIGUEZ

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: USMC - 1st Marine Division Mike Co. 3/5 Vietnam 68-69. Retired from combat for wounds received in combat.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Lt. Col., National Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal w/1 star, Vietnam Campaign Medal w/dvice; Purple Heart.
3. Your occupation today: DVOP Veterans Representative.

JOHN R. REYNOLDSON

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: Army, Infantry, 7th Infantry Division, 17th Regt., Charlie Company, 3rd Platoon, Korea.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Silver Star, Purple Heart, Korean Service, United Nations Service, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Parachutist's Wings, Rifle Platoon Leader.
3. Your occupation today: Retired school teacher.



RODNEY MOEN

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: U.S. Navy, Commander, Seventh Fleet, Detachment Charlie, Saigon, RVN.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Meritorious Unit Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal.
3. Your occupation today: State Senator.

RAY BOLAND

1. Branch of service and outfit you served in overseas to earn your eligibility: U.S. Army, 101st Airmobile Div.
2. Medals and awards earned and rank attained: Legion of Merit (2-OLC) Dist. Fly. Cross, Bronze Star (1-OLC), Air Medal W "V" (3-OLC), Purple Heart.
3. Your occupation today: Secretary, WDVA.



TO BECOME A MEMBER, CALL 1-608-255-6655.

VFW - The Premier Veterans Organization

History

Have you ever wondered why veteran's organizations were founded? Basically, they were founded for two reasons. Camaraderie among those who took part in that service and to remind the home folks of their feats of arms and service, lest these be forgotten. History records the existence of veterans organizations as far back as Caesar's Legions and notes they possibly existed before that time. With one exception, all of these organizations were formed around a single military outfit, single campaign, or a single war. Until 1899, every true veteran's organization was destined to suffer the same fate, extinction. All of these previous organizations, afraid that their contributions and valor would go unnoticed if they merged with veterans of a different conflict, were destined to become as extinct as the dinosaurs. This inevitable end, was predestined by their own mortality.

Clout

By far, the politically strongest of these organizations was the Civil War's Grand Army of the Republic. From its founding in 1866 until it passed the peak of its power in 1906, each political party's plank was built seeking the approval of the GAR. During that period, only one president was elected without the GAR's stamp of endorsement. As two-term President Grover Cleveland learned, ignoring the wishes of the GAR was to lose an election. After he vetoed private pension bills favored by the GAR, they turned against him, ending his bid for a third term. In 1949, 83 years after its founding, the Grand Army of the Republic faded into history. No other veterans organization has ever achieved the political clout wielded by this group.

In 1899 the first model of today's veterans organizations came into being. At first it was known as the American Veterans of Foreign Service. Later it evolved into the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW). The founding fathers, seeing what had happened to previous single entity organizations, incorporated into it an "Evergreen" philosophy. This organization would welcome veterans of all wars. The second part of their philosophy was that, in order to be a member, applicants must have been awarded a campaign ribbon. "In order to speak for us," the founders said, "they must have seen what we have seen and experienced what we experienced."

Even having maintained this high standard of membership criteria, the VFW has grown from its 13 founders to over 2,000,000 members. In the year 1999, the VFW will celebrate 100 years of service to our nation.

Service

No organization can survive just sitting around counting its laurels. It must have a purpose, a reason for its existence. To understand the VFW's reason and purpose, one only has to look at the treatment given by our government to those men returning from the Spanish American War.

These volunteers were transported from their place of enlistment to camps, then ports and shipped to the combat areas. After they had defeated the Spanish, they were shipped back to ports in the United States. Here, regardless of their health, provided they were ambulatory, they were discharged and expected to find their own way home. At this time there was no Veterans Administration to see to their health needs. No pensions for those who could not work. A private, for whom the Army had no further use, regardless of the state of his health, was given two months pay (\$31.20), discharged and sent on his way. For the purpose of righting this injustice and seeing that fair treatment was given their comrades, the VFW was formed.

Through the years, this single purpose program has expanded into a multitude of community activity programs designed to make the areas in which we live, better places in which to live. A Ladies Auxiliary and numerous youth programs have been added. In 1922, the organization undertook its own version of Abraham Lincoln's words, "To care for he who has borne the battle, and for his widows and orphans," by the opening of the VFW National Home. Through good times and bad, for 76 years, the home has cared for destitute member's widows and their children, and their orphans.

Troop Support

From battlefield to home front, the VFW supports those who serve America. Letters, holiday cards, gift packages, USO shows, public rallies and, today, free phone cards are just a few of the things the VFW has done to provide comfort and a touch of home. From letter-writing campaigns in WWII to "welcome home" rallies after the Persian Gulf War to care packages sent to Bosnia, the VFW takes pride in supporting American troops overseas.

Recognition and Remembrance

Recognition of military service and remembrance of the sacrifices made in the nation's defense are among the major purposes of the VFW.

Here are some concrete examples of VFW contributions to memorial efforts on the national level alone: Vietnam Veterans Memorial (\$300,000), the Korean War Veterans Memorial (\$250,000), the Vietnam Women's Memorial (\$70,000) and the Women in Military Service for America Memorial (\$25,000). Construction of the WWII Memorial is a top VFW priority.

Services to Veterans

VFW's motto: "Honor the dead by helping the living." VFW established the first national veterans service office in 1919. Today, through a nationwide network of VFW service officers we provide the assistance veterans need in order to obtain much-deserved benefits. The National Veterans Service Department service officers and assistants and support personnel combined make up the 264-member staff.

VFW members also help sponsor StandDowns, where homeless veterans are given care and counseling. Moreover, the VFW's National Employment Service monitors relevant federal laws to ensure preference in government employment.

Disaster Relief

More than \$1 million has been raised since 1964, when the VFW's National Disaster Relief Fund was created in the wake of the devastating Anchorage, Alaska earthquake. Most recently, in North Dakota, the VFW aided flood victims there, but VFW flood relief dates back at least to 1927 when \$10,000 was donated to residents of the Mississippi Valley.

Growth and Diversity

Those small bands of veterans who met in 1899 ultimately grew to a force of over 2 million by 1984. From average workers to occupants of the White House, the VFW represents a cross-section of society. Each generation of veterans has brought new strength, ideas and dedication to the movement. Today, membership encompasses veterans from WWII through Bosnia. VFW actively courts younger veterans, who the organization recognizes as the VFW's future leaders.

Legislative Accomplishments

VFW was recently ranked the 16th most powerful and influential lobby on Capitol Hill by Fortune magazine, the fruits of more than 75 years of aggressive lobbying on behalf of veterans.

VFW legislative efforts began with the appointment of a lobbyist in 1919 and the formal creation of a Legislative Division two years later. Stellar achievements include: creation of veterans affairs committees in Congress; the WWI Bonus; making Veterans Day a national holiday; passage of WWII GI Bill provisions; the Cold War; Korean War and Vietnam War GI Bills; cabinet status for the VA; Agent Orange and Persian Gulf health-related benefits; as well as recent eligibility reform.

Citizenship Education

Promotion of patriotism is a hallmark of VFW's history. Since the inception of its Americanization Committee in 1921, the VFW has actively taught traditional values among America's young and old.

Loyalty Day (1958) and adoption of the Star-Spangled Banner (1931) as the national anthem are two examples of national achievement. Teaching respect for the flag is a primary goal. And education children in the classroom about the role veterans have played in society has fast become an activity of critical importance. During the WWII 50th anniversary years, for instance, the VFW produced booklets geared for children. The upcoming Korean War anniversary will receive similar attention.

Community Service

Service to the community is a pillar of the VFW foundation. Civic commitment to worthy causes such as the March of Dimes, Keep America Beautiful, Connect America initiative and many other volunteer organizations is standard practice. Yearly contests recognize outstanding efforts by VFW Posts and their Auxiliaries in this regard.

Working side-by-side with the Ladies Auxiliary, VFW members promote community projects that assist others and improve their towns and cities as a whole. Annually, thousands of projects are completed, involving some 14.5 million volunteer hours worth the equivalent of \$180 million, and direct donations and in-kind contributions amount to over \$50 million.

Voice of Democracy

Voice of Democracy is the VFW's premier youth program. It recently commemorated 50 years of assisting high school students to attend college. Winners annually receive more than \$2.5 million in scholarships from the Post to Department levels. The national fund totals over \$127,000 with the top award at \$20,000. By extolling the virtues of democracy, the VFW enhances writing and public speaking skills, along with encouraging a youthful commitment to representative government.

Buddy Poppy

Since 1922, the VFW's Buddy Poppy program has raised millions to support VFW's National Veterans Service, Department and Post Relief funds and the VFW National Home. As a means of rehabilitation, "flowers of remembrance" are assembled by patients in VA and state veterans homes. Buddy Poppies are a familiar sight on Veterans Day (Nov. 11) and Memorial Day (May 30). After more than 75 years, the program is still going strong, raising \$15 million annually.

Youth

From the Boy Scouts of America to the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, the interests of today's youth are being met by VFW Posts around the nation. Youth activities encompass the Sons of the VFW as well as athletic programs launched as long ago as 1935. A full-fledged Athletics & Recreation Department was created after WWII, but such responsibilities have since been directed to the states. Working with Special Olympics is another popular program.

Safety

VFW's concern for public safety dates back to 1937 with the inception of its bicycle safety program. Thirty years ago an entire program was instituted to handle these matters. From home to office to highway safety, it benefits the entire community. Lite-A-Bike and Lite-A-Tike keep youngsters safe. Bicycle safety helps riders of all ages steer a safe path and avoid cycling accidents. Hunter safety promotes responsible and ethical hunter conduct. Child identification opportunities are provided by some Posts. Local seminars on fire prevention and safety fairs are popular, too. Drug prevention is now a prime VFW endeavor.

National Home

Established in 1925, the VFW National Home in Eaton Rapids, Mich. has provided a family-oriented life for many children. Along with the Ladies Auxiliary, the VFW provides them a healthy environment. Other features of the Home include a student job training program, 4-H, and scholarships for those desiring to further their education. Currently, the Home serves some 100 children and single-parent families.

The VFW And its Ladies Auxiliary --A Legacy of Achievement

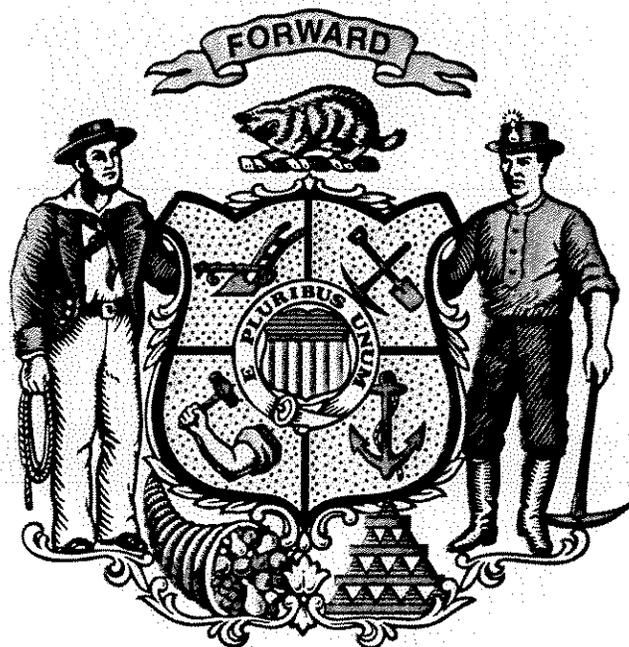
--HISTORICALLY--

- Fought for military pensions and compensation/training for disabled veterans after WWI.
- Promoted and gained the WWI Bonus.
- Planned establishment of the Veterans Administration in 1930.
- Supported creation of the GI Bill of Rights after WWII.
- Led development of the national cemetery system.
- Lobbied for creation of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee in 1970.
- Fought for compensation for Vietnam vets exposed to Agent Orange.
- Promoted elevation of the Veterans Administration to the President's cabinet.
- Protected and enhanced the VA budget.
- Preserved exclusivity of the VA hospital system for veterans.
- Gained presumptive health care for Gulf War Syndrome victims.
- Provided nearly \$900,000 in national disaster relief since 1964.
- Donated \$42 million for cancer research and treatment over the past 43 years.
- Raised \$500,000 to provide 300,000 care packages to Desert Storm troops.
- Contributed \$607,000 to the Korean War Veterans Memorial.
- Contributed over \$200,000 to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.
- Contributed more than \$100,000 to the Vietnam Women's Memorial Project.

--ANNUALLY--

- Provide more than \$2.7 million in scholarships, awards and other incentives through the Voice of Democracy Program.
- More than 15,750 service officers handle over 235,000 claims resulting in nearly \$900 million in compensation.
- Provide more than 8 million hours of volunteer service in local communities valued at more than \$97 million.

TO BECOME A MEMBER, CALL 1-608-255-6655.





State of Wisconsin / DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

P O BOX 8111
MADISON 53708-8111
TELEPHONE 608 242-3000
DSN 724-3000

February 20, 1997

Local file

Honorable Terry M. Musser
Wisconsin Assembly
Room 11 West, State Capitol
Post Office Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

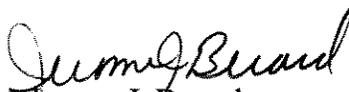
Dear Mr. Musser:

As coordinated with your office we have had to change the date of the continental breakfast and informational briefing for the Assembly Veterans and Military Affairs Committee and staff from Wednesday, April 2 to Wednesday, April 16, 1997, (9:00 to 11:00 a.m.).

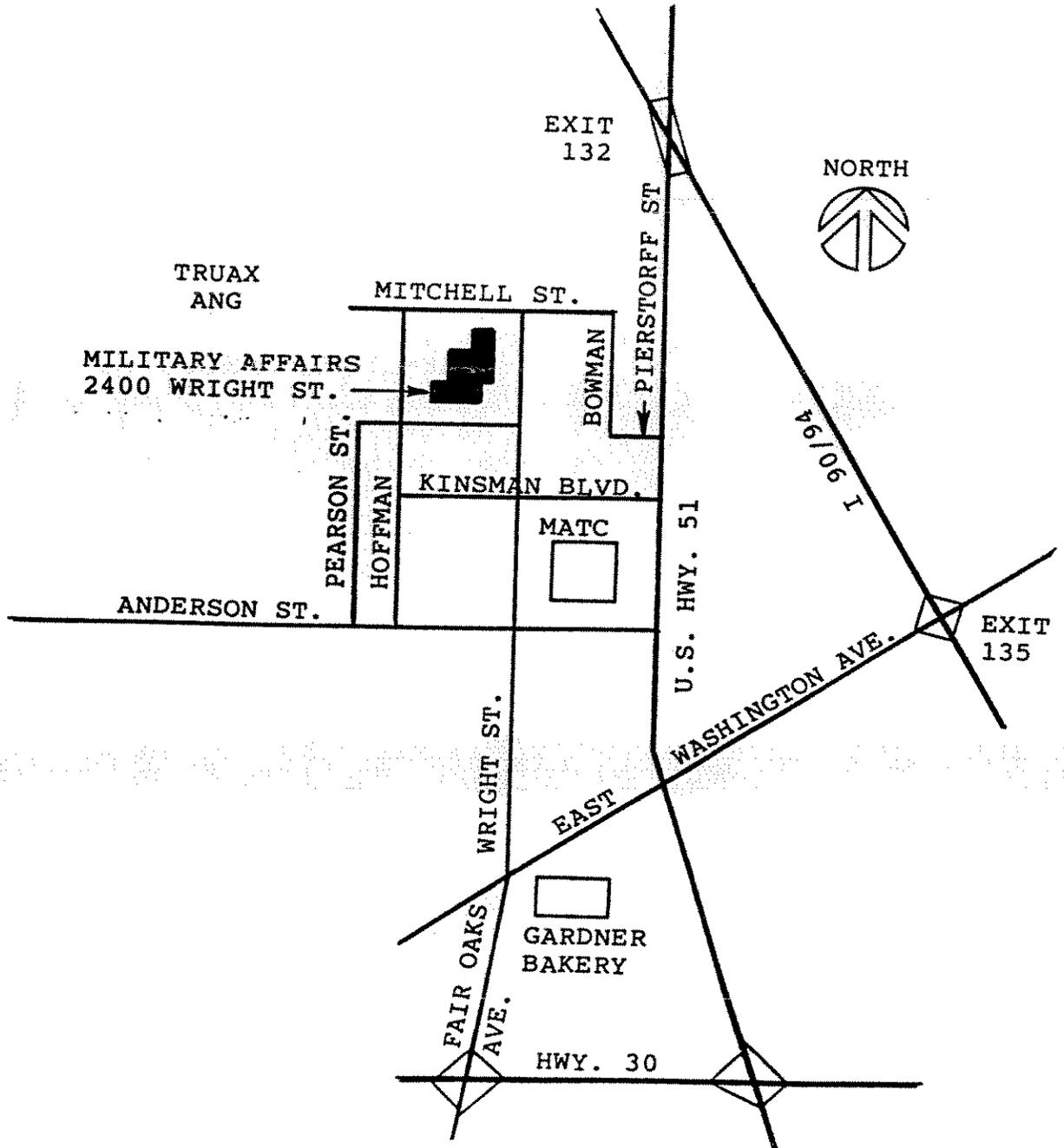
This event will take place at 2400 Wright Street (see strip map). The continental breakfast will be in Room 105 followed by an informational briefing in the auditorium. Both of these are adjacent to the reception area. Tours will be offered for those who will be visiting this office for the first time. This will be an excellent opportunity for the committee and staff to learn more about the Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard and Emergency Management.

Please let my legislative liaison Colonel Andy Schuster know who will be attending as well as any specific needs you or members of your committee may have. Colonel Schuster can be reached at 242-3009.

Sincerely,


Jerome J. Berard
Major General
Wisconsin National Guard
The Adjutant General

Enclosure:
Strip Map



EXIT 132



TRUAX ANG

MITCHELL ST.

MILITARY AFFAIRS
2400 WRIGHT ST.

BOWMAN

PIERSTORFF ST.

PEARSON ST.

HOFFMAN

KINSMAN BLVD.

MATC

ANDERSON ST.

U.S. HWY. 51

I 90/94

EAST WASHINGTON AVE.

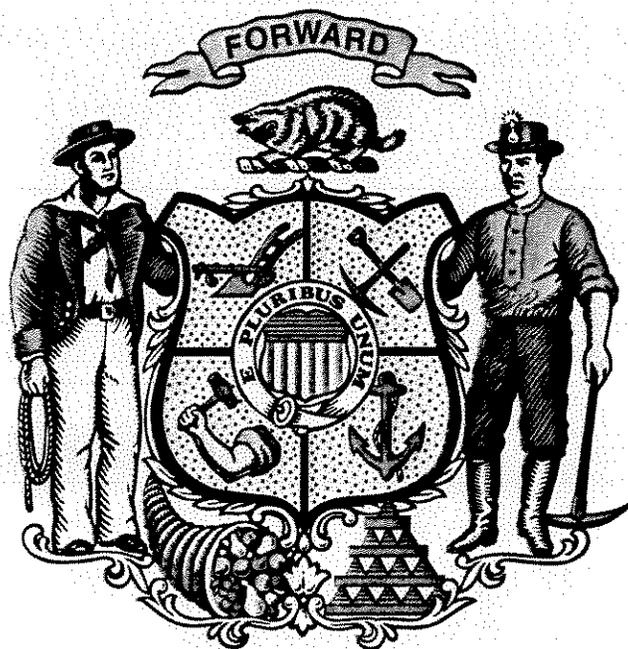
EXIT 135

WRIGHT ST.

GARDNER BAKERY

FAIR OAKS AVE.

HWY. 30



State Representative

TERRY MUSSER

92nd Assembly District



Chair, Assembly Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs

**TO: VETERANS & MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MEMBERS & STAFF**

FROM: REPRESENTATIVE TERRY MUSSER, CHAIR

DATE: APRIL 2, 1997

RE: VISIT TO MILITARY AFFAIRS - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16TH

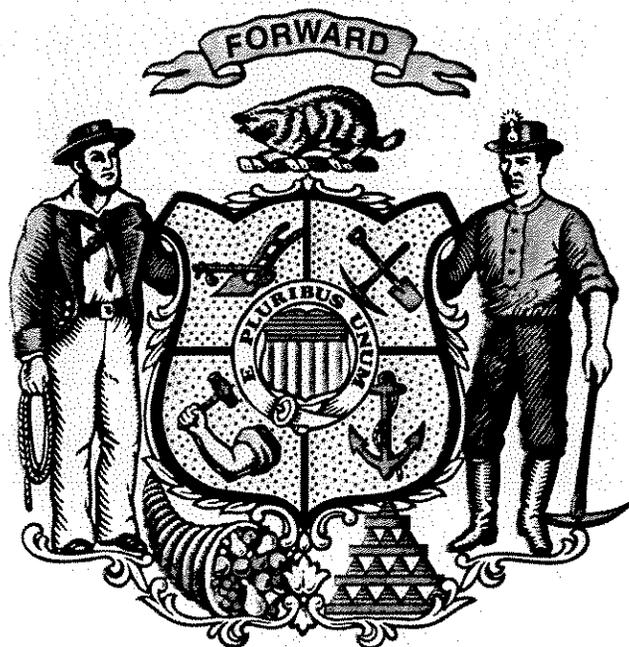
Our committee and our staff have been invited by Major General Berard to an informational briefing and tour at the Department of Military Affairs, on Wednesday, April 16th.

As you will see on the enclosed invitation, the day will begin at 9:00 A.M. with a continental breakfast. We will then be briefed by department staff and following that, tours of the department will be provided.

I will not be arranging any transportation unless it is necessary.

Please let me know by Friday, April 11th if you & your staff plan to attend. 6-7461.

P. S. I am planning a public hearing on Wednesday April 30th.



Assembly Committee Travel Approval Form

Chairperson's Name Rep Terry Musser

Room # 11 West Building State Capitol Phone 266-7461

Name of committee Veterans & Military Affairs

City and date (If more than one hearing outside of Madison is being scheduled, please list each of them.)

City Department Military Affairs Date Wed
2400 Wright Street April 16th
Madison WI 53704

Purpose of hearing (Please include Bill and LRB numbers.)

Briefing by Gen Bernard and Staff
on status of NATIONAL Guard
& Emergency Gov

Is a page requested to attend?

Yes No

Is an overnight stay required?

Yes No

Will a state car be needed?

Yes* No

*(If yes, contact Mary Ellis at 266-1108)

Date of this request

(approval MUST be granted prior to trip)

April 4 1997

Date

4/4/97

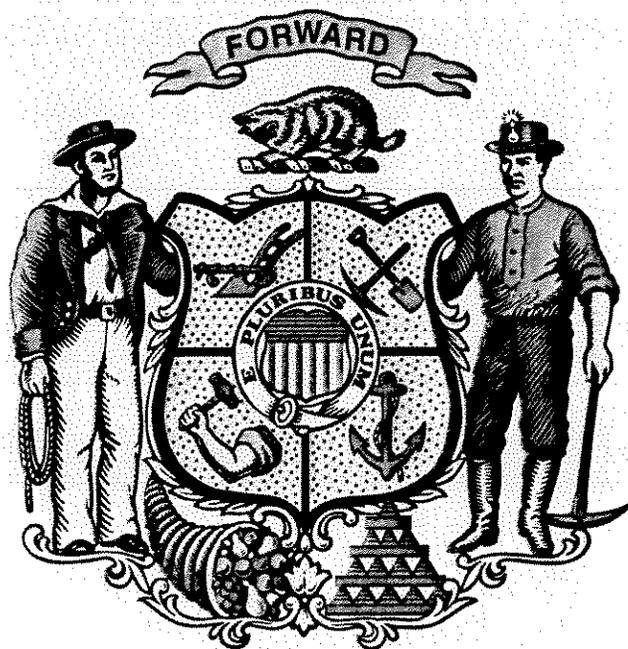
Terry M Musser
Chairperson's signature

Approved

Disapproved

Date

Ben Brancel, Speaker



ASSEMBLY VETERANS & MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**REPORT ON INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING AT MILITARY AFFAIRS
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 1997**

The Assembly Veterans and Military Affairs Committee met at 9:30 in the Auditorium at the WI Department of Military Affairs at 2400 Wright Street Madison, WI.

Roll Call was taken and all members of the committee were present.

Major General Jerome Berard, The Adjutant General, welcomed the Committee and gave an overview on the Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs. He explained that the National Guard dates back to 1837 and that the forces are assigned federal, state and community missions. The role of the state national guard has increased as defense dollars are shrinking. The guard can operate with extremely less dollars than active duty militia.

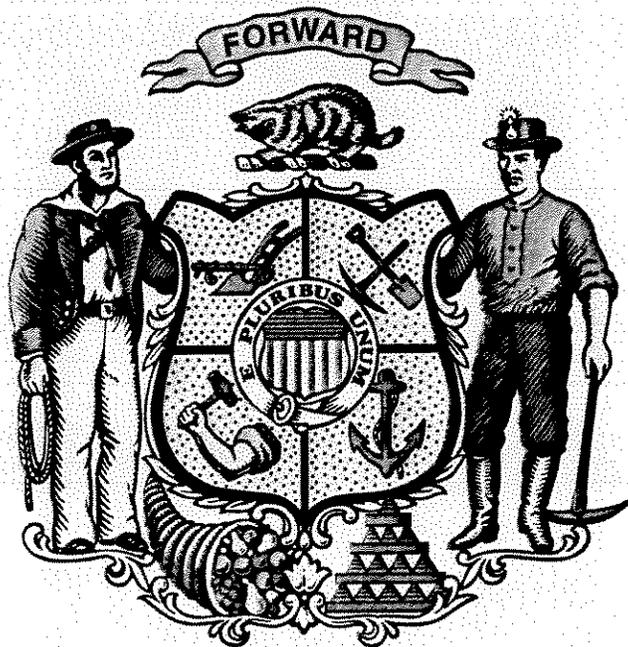
The committee was then briefed by BG James Blaney, Deputy Adjutant General, WI Army National Guard, on the status of the Army National Guard and the activities the Army Guard is currently involved in. Wisconsin has 7,723 Army Guard members with 96 units in 66 Wisconsin communities.

BG Albert Wilkening, Deputy Adjutant General, WI Air National Guard, briefed the Committee on the status and current activities of the WI Air National Guard. Wisconsin has 2117 Air Guard members serving in five major commands, 18 squadron, flight and clinic sized units in three Wisconsin communities.

Wisconsin Emergency Management Division Administrator, Steven Sell, updated the committee on various levels and the response teams of emergency government in Wisconsin. He explained how important their relationship is with Military Affairs when aiding with natural and man made disasters in Wisconsin.

The briefing was concluded and a tour of the building was offered to anyone interested.


Marlene Reineking, Committee Clerk



TO: ANDY SCHUSTER

STAFF PLANNING TO ATTEND BRIEFING AT MA 4/16/97

Pam Shannon - Attorney, Leg. Council

Rep Musser staff

**Marlene Reineking
Kathie Kolka
Cal Rigsby - VA work study intern**

Rep Zukowski staff

**Scott Suder
Anne Thompson**

Rep Sykora staff

Chad Zuleger