

Mississippi Strong
Newsletter of the MS NG NCO Association
Auxiliary
September-October 2021

In this jam-packed issue of the *Mississippi Strong* newsletter you'll find: EANGUS info; Calls-to-Action; folks with cares & concerns; membership information; info about the 2021 EANGUS/Auxiliary Conference and pictures; and other interesting facts.

It was so good to see EANGUS/Auxiliary friends in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The New Mexico team did an outstanding job of welcoming members from all across the United States to the EANGUS 50th Anniversary Conference.

September 6 is Labor Day and we salute all those who labor to keep everything functioning in our country: military members and families; first responders; farmers; truckers; teachers; builders; and on we go. Let's all do our part!

October brings cooler days, football games, and bonfires. Enjoy the autumn temps.





The Presidents:
Connie Myers, Auxiliary;
Melissa Herron, MS NG
NCO Association

Mississippi Auxiliary newsletter, *Mississippi Strong*, awarded first place tie by EANGUS in Auxiliary State Newsletters category.



They're gettin' ready for EANGUS Area IV Caucus.



Myers, Herron, Taylor on Wednesday evening.



Mississippi's stack of 2020 Membership Awards



Mississippi's own Elaine Jackson Received the Distinguished Service Award!!

Ready for business.





MS NG NCO ASSOCIATION REPRESENTS

Many of the great photos included in the newsletter were taken by Kristi Taylor. Thanks a million, Kristi!!

Pat Burchfield
MS Auxiliary
Delegation Chair



One of the many items from the New Mexico Military Museum leaving the Convention Center.



First Timers



EANGUS Auxiliary History for 2021

The 2021 Conference was held in New Mexico, the “Land of Enchantment”, in the historic city of Albuquerque, nicknamed The Duke City and Burque. Old Town was a popular destination for attendees. Albuquerque, sitting in the high desert, is renowned for hosting the International Balloon Fiesta, the world’s largest gathering of colorful hot-air balloons, in October each year. The Sandia-Manzano Mountains run along the eastern side of the city, the Rio Grande flows north to south through the center, and the West Mesa and Petroglyph National Monument frames the western side of the city. Taos Pueblo in New Mexico is the oldest continuously inhabited Native American dwelling in the United States having stood for over one thousand years. Carlsbad Caverns National Park is another unique area in the state along with White Sands National Park.

This was the 50th Anniversary Conference for EANGUS and the 48th for EANGUS Auxiliary.

The EANGUS Golf Tournament was held at the University of New Mexico Golf Course on Friday, August 6. Saturday events included the EANGUS Wild Hogs scenic motorcycle ride to New Madrid, New Mexico; the EANGUS Executive Council (EC) Meeting; set up for the EANGUS Auxiliary Silent Auction; and the EANGUS Auxiliary Past Presidents Social at the Church Street Café. On Sunday, August 8, Chapel Service and First Timers Welcome was held prior to the Exhibit Hall Ribbon Cutting. The first EANGUS session included the EANGUS Auxiliary and began at 1:00 p.m. Welcome Night festivities were held at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center. On Monday, the EANGUS Auxiliary Committees and EC met and President’s Training and Newsletter Training was facilitated by EANGUS Auxiliary Vice President Margie Holcomb. The Junior Enlisted event was held on Monday evening at Revel and included activities, food, and karaoke.

President Kennebeck called the EANGUS Auxiliary general membership meeting to order on Tuesday, August 10. USAA sponsored an EANGUS Auxiliary Brunch. Baile Ilusion, a dance group from New Mexico, performed during the Brunch. Roll Call on Monday showed twenty-six delegates (26), twenty-five (25) proxies, four (4) Officers, five (5) Area Directors, twelve (12) members, eleven (11) guests, three (3) associate members, and fifteen (15) states represented. The 2019 Minutes had been approved by the EC on February 12, 2021. Reports were given: Burden Bears, Sara Hendricks; Constitution, Richard Bryant; Continuity, Pat Burchfield; Family Affairs, Liz Bryant; Finance, Mary Gallegos; History, Vivian Taylor; Legislative, Margie Holcomb; Lifetime Membership, Vivian Taylor; Membership, Judith Putman; Nominations, Sondra Monastra; Philanthropic, Mary Gallegos; Public Relations, Vivian Taylor; Resolutions, Margie Holcomb; Scholarship, Liz Bryant; Silent Auction, Sheila Bandy. An audited statement of cash receipts, disbursements, and change in cash balance showed a May 31, 2021 balance in checking of eighty-three thousand nine hundred seventy dollars seventy-four cents (\$83,970.74) and a one hundred dollars (\$100.00) balance in savings for a total Auxiliary net worth of eighty-four thousand seventy dollars seventy-four cents (\$84,070.74). The 2020 Legislative Report indicated activity from: Virginia, Area II; Alabama, Florida, and Tennessee, Area III; Arkansas, Kansas, Mississippi, Area IV; and South Dakota and Wisconsin, Area V. These states provided fifty-two (52) letters, five hundred forty (540) emails, fourteen (14) phone calls, eighty-five (85) visits/social, and seven hundred (785) responses for an overall total of one thousand four hundred seventy-six (1,476). The 2021 Legislative Report showed the following states involved in the legislative process: Virginia, Area II; Alabama, Area III; Kansas, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Area IV; Minnesota, South Dakota, Area V; and New Mexico, Area VI. Forty-five (45) letters, three hundred eighty-five (385) emails, forty-six (46) phone calls, twenty-eight (28) visits/social, and two hundred sixty-three (263) responses totaled seven hundred sixty-seven (767). The Lifetime Membership report, through August 10, showed a total of eight hundred thirty-seven (837) life members, three hundred seventy-four (374) active life members, one hundred sixty-one (161) life members not reported by states (includes Auxiliaries dissolved), two hundred seventy-nine (279) deceased life members, and twenty-three (23) ineligible life members (that number included divorced, non-Guard spouse, and requests for removal). There were eighteen (18) members in the Class of 2019 and six (6) members in the Class of 2020. Two individuals submitted applications for life membership at Conference and additional applications were provided following Conference. The History was published in the Conference Book for 2019 and an abbreviated history for 2020

was added to the History document. The updated history was added to the EANGUS Auxiliary website following the 2021 Conference. Ten (10) states submitted history highlights for 2019 and three (3) states sent history highlights for 2020; these were published in the 2021 Conference Book. The 2020 **Scholarship** report was published in the 2021 EANGUS Auxiliary Conference Book and the History document. **The recipients of the 2021-2022 scholarships** were: Alexis C. Boesch (SD), three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00), USAA scholarship; Lindsey P. Higginbotham (MS), two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00); Lilly Johnson (SD), one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00); Katelyn Hannah (WI), one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00); and Gretchen Yenchesky (WI), one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).

The Tuesday evening All Areas Hospitality Night was held at the Albuquerque Civic Plaza and included food and beverages from all Areas, state pins trading, and entertainment. The weather throughout the Conference period was perfect for all the outdoor events.

On Wednesday, a **Continental Breakfast**, sponsored by **Air Force Enlisted Village**, was enjoyed by Auxiliary members. **The Military Mariachi Group (Mariachi Nuevo Mexico)** from the 44th Army Band performed during the Continental Breakfast provided by AFEV. **Scarlette Bauman** provided information about Air Force Enlisted Village (AFEV). **Yolanda Castillo** from USO shared slides about the work of the USO. The USO gave a five hundred dollars (\$500.00) donation to the Auxiliary with which refreshments were provided for the Committee meetings. **The EANGUS Auxiliary Philanthropic donation** was presented to Fisher House of Albuquerque. A total of one thousand four hundred fifty dollars (\$1,450.00), which included one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) from the EANGUS Auxiliary budget, was presented by Mary Gallegos to Rita Navarrette, President of the Friends of New Mexico Fisher House at the Raymond G. Murphy VA Center, who was on hand to receive the donation. **Burden Bears** were given to: Pat Burchfield (MS); Edna Steinberg (SD); Vivian Taylor (MS); Charlotte Kuykendall (VA); Delbert Edwards (KS), husband of Delores Edwards; James “Jim” Rains (FL), husband of Barbara Rains; and Mary Giles (SC). Awards were presented to:

- ✓ **Outstanding States Awards**—Presented by President Angela Kennebeck (vote by EANGUS Auxiliary Executive Council): 26-75 members, New Mexico; 76 plus members, Mississippi.
- ✓ **Distinguished Service Award**—Presented by President Angela Kennebeck (vote by EANGUS Auxiliary EC): Liz Bryant (NM); Mary Gallegos (NM); Elaine Jackson (MS); Judith “Judy” Wade (VA); Kimberly “Kim” White (VA).
- ✓ **Outstanding Area Director Award**—Presented by President Angela Kennebeck (vote by EANGUS Auxiliary EC): Judith Putman (KS), Area IV.
- ✓ **President’s Award**—Presented by President Angela Kennebeck (selected by the President): Vivian D. Taylor (MS).
- ✓ **Torch Award**—Presented by President Angela Kennebeck (selected by the President): Sara Hendricks (IA/NM).
- ✓ **Lifetime Membership Award**—Sara Hendricks presented the Sara Hendricks Lifetime Membership Award (selected by Sara Hendricks) to: Paula Carrigan (MS), lifetime member number 216, for the 2020 year; Margie Holcomb (VA), lifetime member number 737, for the 2021 year; posthumous, Marilyn Freking (IA), lifetime member number 393.
- ✓ **Membership Awards**—Membership Chairman Putman awarded the following certificates for membership increases for the 2020 year:
 - *Largest percentage increase in total members*: 1-25 members—Kentucky; 26-75 members—New Mexico; 76 plus members, Mississippi.
 - *Largest percentage increase in lifetime members*: 1-25 members—West Virginia; 26-75 members—New Mexico; 76 plus members—Mississippi.
 - *Largest percentage increase in associate members*: 1-25 members—Kentucky; 26-75 members—Pennsylvania; 76 plus members—Mississippi.
 - *Largest number of new lifetime associate members*: Alabama.
 - *Largest increase in lifetime members*: 1-25 members—West Virginia; 26-75 members—New Mexico; 76 plus members—Mississippi
 - *Largest increase in total members*: 1-25 members—Kentucky; 26-75 members—tie New Mexico and Arkansas; 76 plus members—Mississippi

- *Largest increase in associate members:* 1-25 members—tie Kentucky and Virginia; 26-75 members, New Mexico; 76 plus members, Mississippi
- ✓ **Recruiting Member of the Year Award**—Presented by President Angela Kennebeck (IA) and Membership Committee Chair Judith Putman (KS), for most new and total members recruited, to Secretary Vivian Taylor (MS). Names of those who had recruited at least five (5) new members were in a drawing for two (2) gift cards from Walmart. Andrea Holt (KS) and Vivian Taylor (MS) were the recipients of the gift cards.
- ✓ **Legislative Awards**—Chair Margie Holcomb shared that for the 2019-2020 reporting year four (4) Areas reported with nine (9) states and forty-nine respondents participating; for the 2020-2021 reporting year there were five (5) Areas that reported with eight (8) states and fifty-six (56) respondents. Those individuals recognized with certificates for legislative participation for the 2019-2020 year were: Rebekah S. McClung (VA), Area II; Lindsay Thompson and Jeremy Thompson (AL), Area III; Marie Brabham, Barbara Rains, Jim Rains (FL), Area III; Betsy Redmond (TN), Area III; Trayce Young (AR), Area IV; Judith Putman (KS), Area IV; Vivian and Jerry Taylor (MS), Area IV; Edna Steinberg (SD), Area V; Roxanna Barwick (WI), Area V. For the 2020-2021 year certificates were presented to: Rebekah S. McClung (VA), Area II; Pam and Larry Adams (AL), Area III; Andrea Holt, Lynn Holt (KS), Area IV; Vivian and Jerry Taylor (MS), Area IV; Debra J. Campbell (OK), Area IV; Marlys List (SD), Area V; Carol Benda (MN), Area V; Richard Bryant (NM), Area VI.
- ✓ **EANGUS 2020 “The Pen Is Mightier Than the Musket” Award**—The award was presented to Judith Putman (KS). [Due to the cancellation of in-person Conferences during 2020 and early 2021 this was the first opportunity to present the award to Judith. Normally, this award would have been presented at the EANGUS Awards Banquet. Another EANGUS Award usually presented at the EANGUS Awards Banquet, the “Side by Side” Award was presented to recipient Connie Myers at the 2021 Mississippi Auxiliary Conference. Congratulations were offered to both these deserving recipients.]

Silent Auction—Sheila Bandy reported a total of three thousand nine hundred thirteen dollars (\$3,913.00) had been collected on Silent Auction items through Wednesday morning. Additional items were sold. Unsold items would be taken to the 2022 Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas. A percentage of funds on items sold by George Wallace and son would be given to the Auxiliary. That amount was to be announced after Conference.

A **Memorial** service was held for those who had died since the 2019 Conference. Those members were:

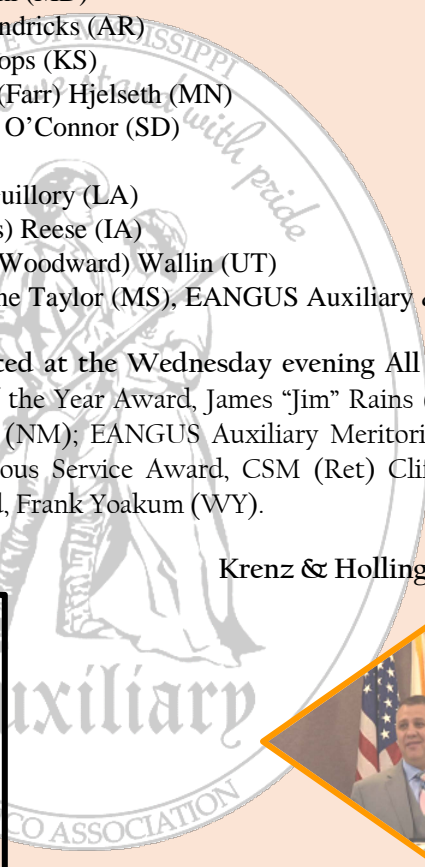
- Gearldine Dorsey-Brown (GA)
- Jacqueline M. Boston (MD)
- Margaret A. (Simon) Anderson (IA)
- Elinor McCarthy (RI)
- Janice Faye (Eldridge) Anders (NC)
- Dolores Lucille (Brown) Johnson (TN)
- Marilyn Dee (Stevens) Freking (IA)
- Janet L. (McKinney; Schwartz) Weasner (OH)
- Patsy (Tate) Rowe (MS)
- CMSgt (Ret) James Monroe “Jim” Bishop (MS), EANGUS Auxiliary & MS Auxiliary associate life
- Cheerie Rose Anthony (MT)
- Martha “Mott” (Hill) Coleman (SC)
- Jayne Elizabeth (Allen) Eleazer (SC)
- Arden Lee (Wiley) Clement (ME)
- Margaret “Peg” Thome (WI)
- Marjorie Ellen “Margie” (Murray) Thomas (SC)

- Patricia “Pat” Doyle (Hastings) Mutz (LA)
- Dessie “Jo” B. (Turner) Kinzie (KS)
- Regina J. Spohn (PA)
- Phyllis Jane (Stigers) Bowser (MO)
- Shelli Lynn (Kennedy) Kasin (ND)
- CMSgt (Ret) David “Dave” Dan Hart (MS), MS Auxiliary associate life
- Mary Louise (Gartee) Hall (MS)
- Virginia Lee (Hightower) Brown (MS)
- Zina (Shvets) Koehntopp (MN)
- Velma R. (Bounds) Wilson (MS)
- Glenda (Tullos) Scarborough (MS)
- Rita Ann (Johnson) Stewart (SD)
- Rita (Yurek) Dekowski (MD)
- Betty (Alexander) Hendricks (AR)
- Ruth Ann (Clark) Stoops (KS)
- “Marjorie” Peggy A. (Farr) Hjelseth (MN)
- Fern Louise (Denker) O’Connor (SD)
- Patsy W. Kerby (AL)
- Gloria N. (Moble) Guillory (LA)
- Sharon Kay (Hawkins) Reese (IA)
- Melva Rene “Rena” (Woodward) Wallin (UT)
- SFC (Ret) Jerry Wayne Taylor (MS), EANGUS Auxiliary & MS Auxiliary associate life

EANGUS Auxiliary Awards presented at the Wednesday evening All States Banquet/Awards Program were: EANGUS Auxiliary Spouse of the Year Award, James “Jim” Rains (FL); EANGUS Auxiliary Spouse of the Year Award, Bryce Hendricks (NM); EANGUS Auxiliary Meritorious Service Award, Joan Gardiner (DC); EANGUS Auxiliary Meritorious Service Award, CSM (Ret) Clifton “Cliff” White (VA); EANGUS Auxiliary Meritorious Service Award, Frank Yoakum (WY).

Albuquerque skyline

Krenz & Hollinger Challenge Members



Centerpieces
Handmade by NM





Our New Mexico Auxiliary hosts won the Outstanding State Award in the 26-75 members category. This group worked tirelessly preparing for Conference. The Mississippi Auxiliary won the Outstanding State Award in the 76 plus members category.



Newly-elected Area Directors; Installation Service



Vivian and Connie accept Paula Carrigan's Sara Hendricks Life Membership Award for 2020. They had the honor of writing the letter of recommendation for Paula. Everyone missed Paula!! Also in pic is the President's Award presented to Vivian by President Kennebeck.

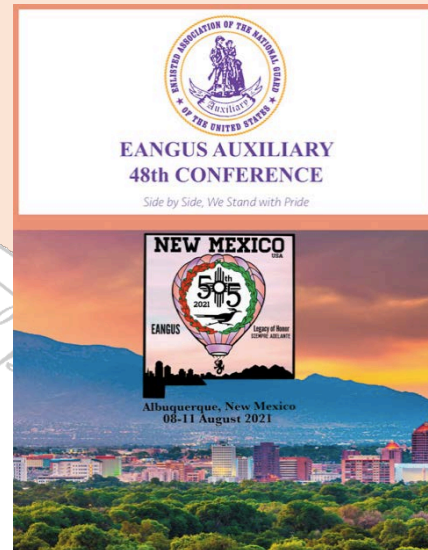
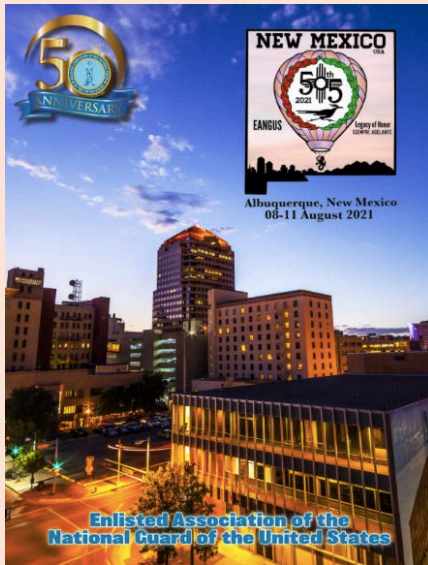
Legislative Awards





50th EANGUS Anniversary Conference Books Albuquerque, NM - August 8-11, 2021

[2021 EANGUS 50th Anniversary Conference Book](#) [EANGUS Auxiliary 48th Conference Book](#)



2022 EANGUS 'Big Dam Conference'

STATEHOUSE CONVENTION CENTER
101 E Markham Street - Little Rock, AR

Visit the [EANGUS Conference Site](#) for the all things conference.
Information will be updated and posted on all platforms as it becomes available.



51st Conference Registration:

<https://eaang.net/2022-eangus-conference-registrations/>

\$175: 13 AUGUST 2021 – 1 JULY 2022

\$200: 2 JULY – 6 AUGUST 2022

\$225: at conference

\$175 for Exhibitors & Professional & Development on Military Orders

****No refunds starting 7 July 2022****

RETIREE DAY

Tuesday, November 9, 2021
10 am - 1 pm

Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center
Mississippi Armed Forces Museum

Contact the MSNG Public Affairs Office:

ng.ms.msarng.list.public-affairs@mail.mil
601.313.6349
60.313.6187



Cares and Concerns

Sympathy is expressed to: Willa Ales at the death on August 07 of her nephew, Dr. James Keith Shaffer.

Get Well wishes to Jerry & Pat Burchfield, Paula Carrigan, Judith Putman, Don and Roxie Barwick. Please let us know if you have a prayer concern so that we can join with you in praying.

National Guard Caucus

The House and the Senate announced their Co-Chairs for the National Guard Caucus. EANGUS has a long-standing relationship with both of these Caucuses, and they have proven to be an intricate part of our legislative process.

Senate National Guard Caucus



Lindsey Graham (R-SC)



Patrick Leahy (D-VT)

House Guard & Reserve Caucus



Steve Palazzo (R-MS)



Tim Ryan (D-OH)

Bost Urges DoD to Clarify Shifting Policy Impacting GI Bill Eligibility

Rep. Mike Bost (R-IL.), the Ranking Member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, released the following statement after sending a letter to Secretary of Defense, Lloyd J. Austin III, regarding National Guard Members' eligibility for GI Bill benefits following the Biden Administration's recent termination of the national emergency declaration at the southern border.

"The Biden Administration's decision to reverse the emergency declaration at the southern border risks national security. It also risks the education of thousands of members of the National Guard who are still deployed there," said Ranking Member Bost. "Secretary Austin must immediately tell us whether those serving at the border since January 20th are receiving the same credit toward the GI Bill that they were on January 19th. Their service has not changed. Their benefits should not change either. The National Guard has stepped up in extraordinary ways over the last year. They have left their families and lives behind to serve on federal duty at the border, in DC, and elsewhere. Every single one of them should receive full GI Bill credit for their service. I stand ready to work with the Secretary to make sure they get exactly that."

The status of servicemembers of the National Guard currently serving at the southern border includes end strength and the statutory authority for their service. Rep. Bost asked for clarification on whether the rescission of Presidential Proclamation 9844 eliminates the ability for members of the National Guard currently serving on the southern border to continue to receive credit towards Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits and, if so, how that is being communicated to them.

As EANGUS members know, we are continually pushing for our well-deserved benefits. We will continue to monitor this situation and ensure everyone is receiving updated information. We will be assisting Rep. Bost with any follow on legislation he feels is needed.

Please answer the Calls-to-Action

EANGUS CALLS-TO-ACTION



EANGUS has supported extending TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) to military technicians as a recruiting tool for the military. Additionally, lack of health care coverage is one of the top concerns for readiness and deployability. EANGUS realizes the biggest hurdle with this legislation is the offset of appropriations that is needed for DoD to fund it. However, we believe that the benefit of TRS far exceeds the expense.

TRS was established to increase RC service-members' readiness during the early years of the 9/11 activations and provided an affordable health care option for service members. Any changes to health care should be approached as a readiness issue for the service member and a benefit for the

family. We also have several other concerns about health care for the RC:

- Military health care records are scattered over several locations (duty station, TDY locations, civilian providers), making it hard, to impossible, to monitor deployable standards.
- Difficulty getting annual physicals during drill weekends due to insufficient manning or personnel.
- Loss or delay in health care coverage when an individual's duty status and orders change, which triggers a different TRICARE program.
- Length of time to complete medical evaluation boards.
- Difficulty processing LODs due to the complexity of the process and review levels required and proving when the injury occurred.
- Inability to provide immediate care to injures due to processing time—this causes longer periods of non-deplorability.

- Servicemembers' inability to receive care through the VA. This process is prolonged due to a lack of attention during injuries.

EANGUS believes a more permanent fix would be to cover every participating RC member under a TRICARE Prime Remote-like coverage for the readiness aspect. This would consolidate the health care records into one program and increase the ability to monitor deployable standards. Any annual physicals, shots, etc., would not have to be crammed into a drill weekend. This would free up valuable training time.

When looking at health care as a benefit, the RC member would individually pay for family members when off-orders. For example, when the RC is on-orders, they would be given a health care allowance to pay for family member coverage. Covering the health care fees this way ensures the family member status would not change regardless of the RC members' duty status; thus, they would not be dropped or encounter delays from TRS to TRICARE Prime.



The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS). Needs a companion bill in the House of Representatives supporting S. 1291, *The Record of Military Service for Members of the Armed Forces Act of 2021*, introduced by Senator Peters (MI), Senator Lankford (OK), Senator Tester (MT), and Senator Moran (KS).

With the global demand not abating for Reserve Component (Reserves and National Guard) members, more and more citizen warriors are called to duty. Since the Reserve Components are part of the "Total Force," all members, past, and present, be treated equally with the DD 214. This, however, is not the case when it is issued to the RC member.

Currently, not all Reserve Component (RC) members receive a DD 214 when they are separated, discharged, or retired from military service. This is a problem for RC members because the VA and other federal and state government agencies usually require veterans to provide a copy of the DD 214 to qualify for veteran benefits.

According to VA Pamphlet 26-7, "There is no one form used by the Reserves or National Guard that is like a DD Form 214..." that meets "Proof of Service Requirements" (Chapter 2). By streamlining the DD 214 for RC members, they will receive credit for their entire service.

Proposed change currently in legislation would provide a DD Form 214 at the same career milestones as active duty. This would ensure predictable 214's that reflect a National Guard and Reserve member's entire career. It would also help servicemembers and their families obtain state and federal veteran benefits.



The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS), is hoping to gain support for bill number H.R. 1997 TRICARE Fairness for National Guard and Reserve Retirees Act introduced by Congressman Bill Johnson (R-OH).

The TRICARE Fairness for National Guard and Reserve Retirees Act will show that Congress has recognized the hard work and dedication of the reserve component. It is vital that Congress enacts this legislation, last June there were more than 100,000 reserve component members activated in support of missions worldwide. Their sacrifice will be rewarded by this bill.

The age at which National Guard members begin drawing retired pay is determined differently than for their active-duty counterparts. In both cases, a servicemember's retirement is based on achieving 20 good years or more of service. However, while active-duty members receive their retirement pay immediately, since the 1940s, National Guard and Reserve servicemembers must wait until age 60 to receive military retired pay. There is one exception to that rule.

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Public Law 110-181) enacted Sec. 647. *Commencement of receipt of non-regular service retired pay by members of the Ready Reserve on active Federal status or active duty for significant periods*. This legislation reduced the retirement age for RC servicemembers from age 60 to as early as age 50 if they served in an eligible

status on or after 29 January 2008. Unfortunately, this legislation only changed when they could receive retired pay, but it did not make the corresponding change to 10 U.S.C. § 1074(b) for them to receive health care upon early age retirement.

Congress did make a subsequent change for early age retirees, but it was to a new plan called TRICARE Retired Reserve (TRR) which is a significantly higher cost plan. As a comparison, the calendar year enrollment fee/premium cost for TRICARE Retired Reserve is \$1,165.01 a month for a family plan. Once the retired reservist reaches age 60, the servicemember and their qualifying family members become eligible for TRICARE Standard, Extra, and Prime (where available). The cost of TRICARE Prime for active and age 60 reserve retirees who began service before January 1, 2018 is \$606.00 per year for the family plan.

Public Law 110-181 was passed to recognize National Guard and Reserve contributions to the Global War on Terrorism and to the subsequent loss with their civilian retirement because of long deployments. This law recognized their service, they should not then be penalized with higher health care costs than other retirees.



H.R. 1854, RECRUIT

EANGUS would like you to participate in this Call to Action for H.R. 1854 introduced by Rep Ryan (D-OH) and Rep Palazzo (R-MS). The "Reserve Employers Comprehensive Relief and Uniform Incentives on Taxes Act of 2021" or the "RECRUIT Act of 2021" is an EANGUS legislative priority to encourage employers to hire and retain National Guard and Reserve servicemembers.

Our association is devoted to helping National Guard with USERRA and SCRA problems, and we are all too familiar with the employment problems they run into from deployments. On the other hand, we cannot blame employers because they also shoulder a burden when Guard and Reserve are on orders. H.R. 1854 provides a tax credit to employers, which we believe will encourage them to hire and retain Reserve Component members. The tax credit will help employers offset the financial cost of hiring temporary employees or paying overtime when servicemembers are absent.



EANGUS Call-To-Action—Equal Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay for National Guard

EANGUS has supported Equal Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay (HDIP) for the National Guard, and we are asking our members to participate in this Call-To-Action.

The military has many hazardous jobs, and the men and women in these positions qualify for special incentive pay. DoDI 1340.09, Hazard Pay Program states, "HDIP provides a monetary incentive to servicemembers who volunteer to perform a duty designated as hazardous, based upon the inherent dangers of the duty and risks of physical injury." Members of the military who volunteer for these precarious positions include pilots, SEALs, divers, parachutists, and more. The Navy offers special pay for being onboard submarines and working with nuclear energy plants. Jobs that qualify for hazardous duty are deemed more dangerous than others.

To compensate U.S. servicemembers assigned these high-risk duties, the Armed Forces authorizes a special payment that starts at \$150 per month, known as Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay.

National Guard servicemembers DO NOT receive equal pay when it comes to performing these duties. Although requirements are the same for a National Guard servicemember, they are only paid 1/30th of their active-duty counterparts.

37 U.S. Code § 301. Incentive pay: hazardous duty

(f)(1) Under regulations prescribed by the President and to the extent provided for by appropriations, when a member of a reserve component of a uniformed service, or the National Guard, who is entitled to compensation under section 206 of this title, performs, under orders, any duty described in subsection (a) for members entitled to basic pay, he is entitled to an increase in compensation equal to 1/30 of the monthly incentive pay authorized by subsection (b) or (c), as the case may be, for the performance of that hazardous duty by a member of a corresponding grade who is entitled to basic pay. He is entitled to the increase for as long as he is qualified for it, for each regular period of instruction, or period of appropriate duty, at which he is engaged for at least two hours, including that, performed on a Sunday or holiday, or for the performance of such other equivalent training, instruction, duty, or appropriate duties, as the Secretary may prescribe under section 206(a) of this title. This subsection does not apply to a member entitled to basic pay under section 204 of this title for the entire month.

Currently, Active Component members, based on their job, receive a minimum of \$150 a month even though they may only perform the actual hazardous duty for a certain number of days during the month. Reserve Component members also perform a hazardous duty for a certain number of days during the month, but because they are not on 30-day orders, they only receive 1/30th of the incentive pay. EANGUS believes that if the mandatory requirements to qualify for HDIP are precisely the same for all members regardless of Active or Reserve status, then the payment should be equal. Active, National Guard, and Reserve servicemembers all meet the exact mandatory requirements and assume the same risk.

Equalizing Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay recognizes that the National Guard is responsible for meeting the same deployment standards as their active counterpart. It is better to retain a trained servicemember than incur the expense of training new servicemembers repeatedly. The special training and experience that individuals in these fields possess are vital to the success of our national strategy. Additionally, the leadership skills gained during their career cannot be replaced with recruits.

Currently, the following specialty duties receive HDIP per DoDI 1340.09:

Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay Aircrew and Non-Air Crewmembers	Rates per month
Air Crew	\$150-\$240 Enlisted \$150-\$215 Warrants \$150-\$250 Officers
Parachute Duty, High Altitude, Low Opening	\$150-\$225
Demolition Duty	\$150
Experimental Stress Duty	\$150
Flight Deck Duty	\$150
Exposure to Highly Toxic Pesticides.	\$150
Laboratory Duty Utilizing Live Dangerous Viruses or Bacteria	\$150
Toxic Fuels and Propellants.	\$150
Handling Chemical Munitions	\$150
Maritime Visit, Board, Search, Seizure (VBSS)	\$150
Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support (WMDCS) Team	\$150
Diving Duty	\$150

Reference: Defense Finance and Accounting Service: <https://militarypay.defense.gov/Pay/Special-and-Incentive-Pays/HDIP/>

NOTE: Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay is different pay than Hazard Pay and Aviation Career Incentive Pay.

HAVE YOU ANSWERED THESE EANGUS CALLS-TO ACTION?

<https://eangus.org/legislative/>



PLEASE REMEMBER TO LET MS AUXILIARY LEGISLATIVE CHAIR VIVIAN TAYLOR KNOW WHEN YOU HAVE RESPONDED TO CALLS-TO-ACTION AND WHEN YOU RECEIVE RESPONSES FROM LEGISLATORS. THANKS!!!

UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERS - MISSISSIPPI

UPDATED 1-3-2021

117th Congress

January 3, 2021- January 3, 2024

Republicans

Democrats

Mississippi U.S. Senators



Senior Senator
Roger Wicker

The Honorable Roger Wicker
555 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510
202.224.6253
Fax: 202.228.0378
email: <http://www.wicker.senate.gov>

Tupelo Office
330 West Jefferson St, Ste B
Tupelo, MS 38804
P.O. Box 3777
Tupelo, MS 38803
662.844.5010
662.844.5030 Fax

Jackson Office
U.S. Federal Courthouse
501 East Court St, Ste 3-500
Jackson, MS 39201
601.965.4644
601.965.4007 Fax
662.844.5030 Fax

Hernando Office
321 Loshier St
PO Box 385
Hernando, MS 38632
662.429.1002
662.429.6002 Fax

Gulfport Office
2909 13th St
3rd Floor, Ste 303
Gulfport, MS 39501
228.871.7017
228.871.7196 Fax



Junior Senator
Cindy Hyde-Smith

The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith
702 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510
202.224.5054
Fax: 202.224.5321
email: <http://hydesmith.senate.gov>

Jackson Office
190 East Capitol St, Ste 550
Jackson, MS 39201
601.965.4459
601.965.4919 Fax

Oxford Office
911 East Jackson Ave, Ste 249
Oxford, Mississippi 38655
662.236.1018
662.236.7618 Fax

Gulfport Office
2012 15th St, Ste 451
Gulfport, MS 39501
228.867.9710
228.867.9789 Fax

Mississippi District U.S. Representatives



1st District
Trent Kelly

Washington, D.C.
The Honorable Trent Kelly
2243 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C.
202.225.4306
202.225.3549 Fax
<https://trentkelly.house.gov/>

Columbus Office
318 North 7th St, Ste D
Columbus, MS 39701
662.327.0748
662.328.5982 Fax

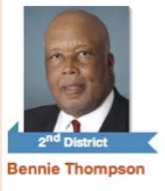
Hernando Office
2565 Caffey St, #200
P.O. Box 218
Hernando, MS 38632
662.449.3090
662.449.4836 Fax

Eupora Office
855 South Dunn St
Eupora, MS 39744
662.687.1545
662.258.7240 Fax

Tupelo Office
431 West Main St
Tupelo, MS 38804
662.841.8808
662.841.8845 Fax

Farmington Office
4135 County Rd 200
Corinth, MS 38844
662.687.1525
662.841.8845 Fax

Oxford Office
107 Courthouse Sq
Oxford, MS 38655
662.687.1540
662.328.5982 Fax



Washington, D.C.
 The Honorable **Bennie Thompson**
 2466 Rayburn House Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20515
 202.225.5876
 202.225.5898 Fax
<http://benniethompson.house.gov/>

Bolton Office
 107 West Madison St
 Bolton, MS 39041
 601.866-9003
 601.866-9036 (Fax)
 .800.355-9003 (In State)

Greenville Office
 910 Courthouse Ln
 Greenville, MS 38701
 662.335.9003
 662.334.1304 Fax

Greenwood Office
 728 Main St, Suite A
 Greenwood, MS 38930
 662.455.9003
 662.453.0118 Fax

Jackson Office
 3607 Medgar Evers Blvd
 Jackson, MS 39213
 601.946.9003
 601.982.5337 Fax

Marks Office
 P.O. Box 356
 263 East Main St
 Marks, MS 38646
 662.326-9003

Mound Bayou City Hall
 PO Box 679
 106 Green Ave, Ste 106
 Mound Bayou, MS 38762
 662.741.9003
 662.741.9002 Fax



3rd District
Michael Guest

Washington DC
 The Honorable **Michael Guest**
 418 Cannon House Office Building
 Washington, DC 20515
 202.225.5031
<https://quest.house.gov>

Starkville Office
 600 Russell St. Suite 160
 Starkville, MS 39759
 Phone: 662.324.0007
Brookhaven Office
 230 S Whitworth Ave
 Brookhaven, MS 39601
 Call for Appointment
 Phone: 601.823.3400

Meridian Office
 2214 5th Street
 Meridian, MS 39301
 Phone: 601.693.6681

Brandon Office
 308 B East
 Government Street
 Brandon, MS 39042
 Phone: 769.241.6120



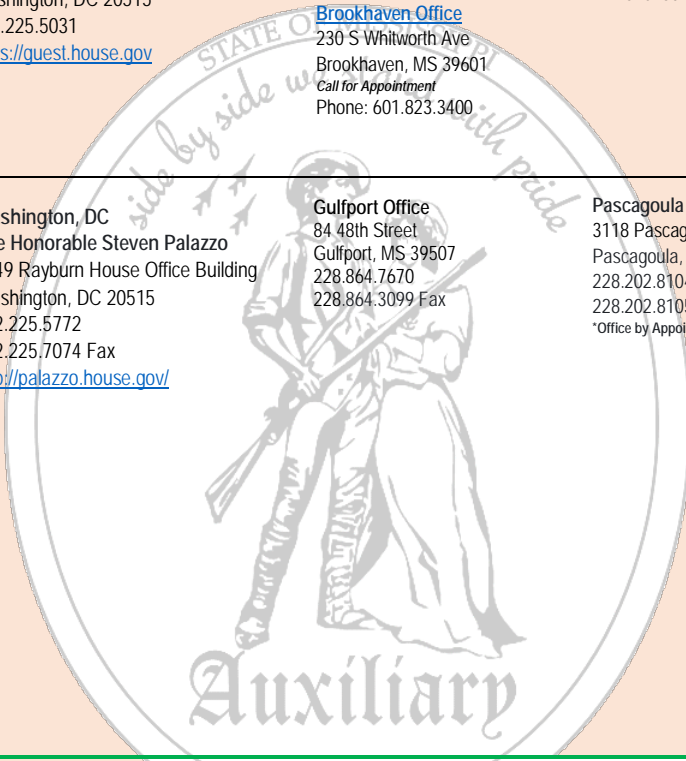
4th District
Steven Palazzo

Washington, DC
 The Honorable **Steven Palazzo**
 2349 Rayburn House Office Building
 Washington, DC 20515
 202.225.5772
 202.225.7074 Fax
<http://palazzo.house.gov/>

Gulfport Office
 84 48th Street
 Gulfport, MS 39507
 228.864.7670
 228.864.3099 Fax

Pascagoula Office
 3118 Pascagoula St., Ste 181
 Pascagoula, MS 39567
 228.202.8104
 228.202.8105 Fax
 *Office by Appointment Only

Hattiesburg Office
 641 Main St, Ste 142
 Hattiesburg, MS 39401
 601.582.3246
 601.582.3452 Fax



T-Mobile customers who dial 988 will be connected to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. T-Mobile was the first carrier to enable the 988 number. Carriers have until July 2022 to put 988 into effect. However, at this time the 988 number isn't able to receive text messages.



In the mood for chocolate? Try the
CANDIED CARAMEL PECAN APPLE
from Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory
in Vicksburg.

It's on the list of the
best chocolates in every state, according to
Yelp.

Different Classes of Membership for the Auxiliary

Annual Member—Your spouse must be a member of the MS NG NCO Association. In Mississippi the annual membership is \$13.00.

Lifetime Member—Your spouse must be a Lifetime member of the NCO Association and you must be a current annual member of the Auxiliary. The cost is figured on your age.

Associate Member—You do not have to have anyone in the Guard. This membership shows your support of the Guard, the NCO Association, and the Auxiliary. There are no voting privileges and you cannot hold an office. Cost is \$10.00 for Mississippi and EANGUS Auxiliary associate membership.

Mississippi Auxiliary Associate Lifetime Member—The rules are the same as for an Associate Member, except it is for Mississippi Auxiliary Lifetime only and there will be no more dues. Cost is \$100.00.

EANGUS Auxiliary Associate Lifetime Member—The rules are the same as for the Mississippi Auxiliary Associate Lifetime Member, except it is for the National Organization only and there will be no more dues. Cost is \$100.00.

Lifetime membership is good for both the Auxiliary and the individual. Please inquire if there is something you don't understand. Any Officer would be happy to help you!

Annual and associate dues for 2022 must be paid by December 15 and can be paid at any time prior to that date.

🎉🎉🎉🎉🎉🎉 Newest Lifetime Member 🎉🎉🎉🎉🎉🎉
Let's add your name here!

MS NG NCO ASSOCIATION AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

YOUR NAME: _____

YOUR HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP CODE _____

HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: _____ BIRTHDAY: _____

SPOUSE:(NCO) _____ RANK: _____

UNIT ASSIGNED: _____ ARMY: _____ AIR: _____

CITY: _____ DISTRICT: _____

Spouse Current Member of MS NG NCO Association YES _____ NO _____

Spouse MS NG NCO Association Membership Number _____

Did Spouse join NCO Association On-Line? YES _____ NO _____

CHECK ONE BELOW – LEVEL CHECKED WILL INDICATE DUES

NEW ANNUAL MEMBER

\$13.00

RENEWAL MEMBER

\$13.00

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

MS AUXILIARY ONLY

\$5.00

ASSOCIATE MEMBER MS AUXILIARY AND EANGUS AUXILIARY

\$10.00

LIFE MEMBER EANGUS

(STATE ONLY) \$6.00

LIFE MEMBER STATE

(EANGUS ONLY) \$9.00

LIFE MEMBER (BOTH

STATE & EANGUS)

It is understood that by acceptance of this application and membership dues, I will be a member in good standing with the Mississippi National Noncommissioned Officers Association Auxiliary. I agree to abide by the rules and regulations as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Auxiliary and that violation of the same is cause for revocation of membership.

DATE: _____ YOUR SIGNATURE: _____

PLEASE MAIL APPLICATION TO:

TREASURER PAT BURCHFIELD
MS NG NCO ASSN. AUXILIARY
2443 DOGWALK RD, TUTWILER, MS 38963

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

MS NG NCO ASSOCIATION AUXILIARY

**MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION AUXILIARY STATE LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Card Number assigned by MS Auxiliary Treasurer _____

Applicant's Name: Last First Middle Maiden

Street Address or Post Office Box

City State Zip Code

Phone Number: _____ (home) _____ (work or cell)

Age _____ Birthday _____ Army Guard _____ Air Guard _____

Spouse's Name Rank Unit

EANGUS Auxiliary Lifetime Membership Number _____

Cost of Lifetime Membership: An annual member may become a lifetime member by payment of a fee of **\$10.00** plus the annual dues that apply until the applicant reaches the age of **65**. This is a non-refundable payment. After the age of 65, no dues are required, only the \$10.00 fee. If the applicant is not a lifetime member of the EANGUS Auxiliary and does not become one, the applicant would have to continue to pay annual EANGUS Auxiliary dues.

Date application received by MS Auxiliary treasurer _____

Date received by MS Auxiliary Executive Council _____

LIFETIME DUES SCHEDULE

<u>Current Age</u>	<u>Amount Due</u>	<u>Current Age</u>	<u>Amount Due</u>	<u>Current Age</u>	<u>Amount Due</u>
Age 65 or over	\$10.00	51	\$94.00	37	\$178.00
64	\$16.00	50	\$100.00	36	\$184.00
63	\$22.00	49	\$106.00	35	\$190.00
62	\$28.00	48	\$112.00	34	\$196.00
61	\$34.00	47	\$118.00	33	\$202.00
60	\$40.00	46	\$124.00	32	\$208.00
59	\$46.00	45	\$130.00	31	\$214.00
58	\$52.00	44	\$136.00	30	\$220.00
57	\$58.00	43	\$142.00	29	\$226.00
56	\$64.00	42	\$148.00	28	\$232.00
55	\$70.00	41	\$154.00	27	\$238.00
54	\$76.00	40	\$160.00	26	\$244.00
53	\$82.00	39	\$166.00	25	\$250.00
52	\$88.00	38	\$172.00	24	\$256.00



Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States Auxiliary

SPOUSE MUST BE AN EANGUS LIFETIME MEMBER
APPLICANT MUST BE CURRENT STATE & EANGUS AUXILIARY MEMBER

LIFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

2020--August

Date of Application

Name (Last) (First) (Middle) (Maiden name, please)

Mailing Address

City, State

Age Date of Birth State Affiliation State Verification

Spouse's Name Phone number

Email Address

Army Air Lifetime number assigned by EANGUS for Spouse:

COST OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP

An annual member may become a life member by payment of **\$25.00 plus the annual dues which apply until the applicant reaches the age of 60**. This is a nonrefundable payment. After age 60, no dues are required. Application must be accompanied by verification of eligibility from the treasurer of the state of which the applicant is an annual member.

Year of birth	+	60	=	Auxiliary	-		=	()
						Current Year	X	\$ 7.00
						Life Membership Dues to age 60:	=	
						Application Fee:	+	\$ 25.00
						TOTAL:		\$

A Life Member card number will be assigned by the LIFE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR.

Mail this application along with applicable dues to:

Vivian Taylor, LTM Chairperson, PO Box 101, Clara, MS 39324-0101

Date received by EANGUS Auxiliary Treasurer

Amount \$

-- Side By Side We Stand With Pride --

Health and Fitness



Health benefits of Guava leaves

Guava fruit gets a lot of attention for its health benefits. It's packed with Vitamins A and C, lycopene, potassium, and dietary fiber. The popular fruit deserves its acclaim, but its leaves should not be overlooked for their myriad health properties. Guava leaves help boost the immune system, combat free radicals, aid in detoxification, help with diabetes management and prevention, aid heart health, lower "bad" LDL cholesterol, prevent and fight cancer, prevent heart disease, prevent stroke, regulate blood pressure.

—*Soldier Today*
Tuesday 29 June 2021

Uniforms with Programmable Fiber



Groundbreaking research could revolutionize Soldier uniforms

Army-funded research has resulted in the development of a programmable fiber that could transmit data from Soldier uniforms. Fibers could sense and alert Soldiers in real time to health changes.

By U.S. Army DEVCOM Army Research Laboratory Public Affairs June 1, 2021

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, N.C.—Army-funded research has resulted in the development of a programmable fiber that could transmit data from military uniforms.

Researchers at the Army's Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology developed the first fiber with digital capabilities. The fiber can sense, store, analyze and infer activity when sewn into a piece of clothing. "This groundbreaking research, with other research underway at the ISN, could revolutionize Soldier uniforms," said Dr. James Burgess, ISN program manager for the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command, now known as DEVCOM, Army Research Laboratory. "We could outfit our Soldiers with uniforms that could generate power, give them vital information about their physiology and environmental exposures, provide their location to their team and alert someone if they incur an injury. All of this could be done with very little increase in weight carried by the Soldier." Ultimately uniforms with this technology could power sensors, store and analyze the collected data and transmit data to outside sources.

The research, published in *Nature Communications*, describes how the team created the new fiber. The team placed hundreds of square silicon microscale digital chips into a preform that created a polymer fiber. By precisely controlling the polymer flow, the researchers created a fiber with continuous electrical connection between the chips over a length of tens of meters.

Until now, electronic fibers have been analog, carrying a continuous electrical signal, rather than digital, where discrete bits of information can be encoded and processed in 0s and 1s. Army-funded research results in the creation of a programmable fiber that could collect, analyze and transmit data from Soldier uniforms. The fiber itself is thin and flexible and can pass through a needle, be sewn into fabrics, and washed at least 10 times without breaking down. "When you put the fiber into a shirt, you can't feel it at all," said Gabriel Loke, MIT doctoral student. "You wouldn't know it was there."

Yoel Fink, professor in the departments of materials science and engineering and electrical engineering and computer science at MIT said that digital fibers expand the possibilities for fabrics to uncover the context of hidden patterns in the human body for physical performance monitoring, medical inference, and early disease detection. A digital fiber can also

store a lot of information in memory. The researchers were able to write, store, and read information on the fiber, including a 767-kilobit full-color short movie file and a 0.48-megabyte music file. The files can be stored for two months without power.

The fiber also takes a few steps forward into artificial intelligence by including, within the fiber memory, a neural network of 1,650 connections. After sewing it around the armpit of a shirt, the researchers used the fiber to collect 270 minutes of surface body temperature data from a person wearing the shirt, and analyzed how these data corresponded to different physical activities. Trained on these data, the fiber was able to determine with 96 percent accuracy the activity in which the person wearing the shirt was participating. Adding an artificial intelligence component to the fiber further increases its possibilities, the researchers say. Fabrics with digital components can collect a lot of information across the body over time, and these lush data are perfect for machine learning algorithms, Loke said.

With this analytic power, the fibers someday could sense and alert Soldiers in real-time to health changes like a respiratory decline or an irregular heartbeat, or deliver muscle activation or heart rate data during training exercises. It could also provide data on any toxins Soldiers are exposed to, the length of time they are exposed, and monitor any effects those toxins have on their physiology. The fiber is controlled by a small external device so the next step will be to design a new chip as a microcontroller that can be connected within the fiber itself. "When we can do that, we can call it a fiber computer," Loke said.

The U.S. Army established the MIT Institute for Nanotechnologies in 2002 as an interdisciplinary research center to dramatically improve protection, survivability and mission capabilities of the Soldier and of Soldier-supporting platforms and systems. In addition to the Army, the, National Science Foundation, the MIT Sea Grant and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency supported this research.

Fallen US Army Soldier's bracelet tells story of secret mission to Norway in last days of WWII

A bracelet found in a Norwegian attic reflects tales of secret missions behind Nazi lines to free Europe of Hitler's Germany, Seventy-five years later it's returned to the family of Lt. Richard Bosch.

5 Jul 2021

Military.com | By [Richard Sisk](#)

The slightly dented bracelet found at the back of a chest of drawers in a Norwegian attic bore testimony to an epic tale of daring secret missions behind Nazi lines to free Europe of Hitler's Germany. Seventy-five years later, its return to the family of its owner would be a saga all its own.



The bracelet, inscribed on the facing with the name of its owner, "Lt. Richard A. Bosch 0-783238," was discovered by Jorn Loite, who found it while cleaning out the attic of his grandparents' home in Drangedal, Norway. An inscription on the underside, possibly from a girlfriend, said "Ever with me, Jo." As first reported by NRK TV, Loite immediately knew he had a mission: to find out who Bosch was and find a way to send the bracelet back where it belonged.

Bosch, then 25, had been killed with 11 others in the crash of their specially-rigged B-24 Liberator bomber into the snowy face of Plukktjønnfjell Mountain, Norway on the night of April 7, 1945. The dangerous mission for the B-24 crew on that foggy and bitter cold night was to parachute supplies and four Norwegian-Americans to reinforce the small team of Office of Strategic Services saboteurs led by then-Army Maj. William Colby, who would become CIA director in the 1970s. Colby would later describe the top-secret task of disrupting and blowing up the Nordland railway as "the first and only combined ski-parachute operation ever mounted by the U.S. Army."

He had previously jumped into occupied France with a unit known as the "Jedburghs," whose motto was "Surprise, Kill and Vanish." Colby would take that elan with him for the sabotage missions in Norway. In a memoir written after the war, Colby recalled the first jump into Norway: "This is it," Colby told the pilot as the B-24 neared the drop zone. "I told the men, and they began to buckle on their white equipment. The pilot veered left and angled earthward. Paulsen and Aanonsen pulled up the trap door, and I went through into the awful quiet that closes in when the engines recede.

"Then there was the cold and the wonder if there are friends below—and above. Dimly, I counted the others slipping into the air—one, two, three—formation perfect, five seconds apart. Then my chute opened, now the others."

Loite found all this out from the Carpetbagger Aviation Museum in Harrington, England. The museum was founded in 1993 for the 50th anniversary reunion of the U.S. Army Air Force's 801st/492nd Bomb Group, known as the "Carpetbaggers." Museum director Roy Tebbutt confirmed that Lt. Bosch was a bombardier with the Carpetbaggers, known for flying all-black B-24 Liberators on low-level night missions to drop supplies and agents from the OSS, the CIA's predecessor, into France and later Norway to bolster the resistance.

According to the museum's website, the Carpetbaggers had 208 aircrew killed in action while dropping 556 agents and 4,511 tons of supplies into enemy territory on a total of more than 3,000 missions, including 21 night bombing runs. But that was all the museum could offer on Bosch. Enter 94-year-old former Sgt. Bill Becker, who flew with the Carpetbaggers as a top turret gunner out of Harrington.

Becker, treasurer and reunion director for the 801st/492nd Bomb Group, did not know Bosch personally, but was able to put Loite and NRK TV in touch with Linda Bosch Odess, the bombardier's niece, in Dunellen, Florida. That began a long and stilted effort by the Norwegians to get past COVID-19 restrictions make a formal presentation of the bracelet to Linda.

Trumpet Player at Pearl Harbor

Bosch was the type of guy who somehow found time away from his secret flying missions out of England to shop for a christening dress for the soon-to-be born niece he would never know and mail it home, Odess, 75, told Military.com. She was born a month after Bosch's plane went down, on May 7, 1945—the same day Germany surrendered.

Family lore had it that Bosch was a talented musician and "he left home at 16 to play trumpet with a swing band," Odess said. He joined the Army in 1941, and one of Odess's prized possessions was a photo of her uncle with other members of the Army band taken at Pearl Harbor just before the Japanese attack. Trumpet playing was no longer an option and Bosch wanted to fly, leading to his assignment to the Carpetbaggers in England. "We knew he wanted to be in the air, not slogging with the infantry," Odess said. Until the discovery of the bracelet, and the story behind it, the family never knew that his plane had crashed into the mountain. "We thought he'd been shot down by the Germans," Odess said. "The only story I heard as a child was that the Germans shot him down, but it was foggy and their plane clipped the mountain."

Odess's memory as a toddler of the return of her uncle's remains for burial at Forest Hills Cemetery in Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania, is still vivid. She recalled running around the cemetery, hearing a trumpet play Taps and being frightened by the gun salute that followed. "Oh, I hated that," she said. "I was old enough to be running around but not old enough to understand. Everybody was crying." Linda was vague on who the "Jo" inscribed on the underside of the bracelet might have been, but said Bosch was "what we used to call a 'ladies' man.' There was no doubt about that." To Linda, the discovery of the bracelet was "beyond anything I would have prayed for, a full-blown miracle. To me, this is unbelievable."

The Norwegians had planned for a formal presentation of the bracelet to Linda by Norwegian-American veterans in Florida. But those plans fell through because of COVID-19 restrictions. Instead, they mailed the bracelet to Linda. By way of a substitute for the presentation, NRK TV arranged a Skype call for Linda with Jorn Loite. "This is an answer to my prayers. I thank you from the bottom of my heart," she told Loite. "It was the biggest gift anyone could give me." Her "Uncle Dick" was a proud soldier who "loved to fly. He loved his country. He loved helping others," Linda told Loite.

Retired Col. Ebbe Deraas, a former commander in the Norwegian Home Guard who helped Loite in the search to find Linda, said he has arranged with Linda to donate the bracelet, the Purple Heart and other belongings of her uncle to a museum on the Norwegian resistance and the American contributions to that effort he was setting up in Snasa, Norway. Linda said it was now on her "bucket list" to visit the museum when it is scheduled to open this September.

Out the "Joe Hole"

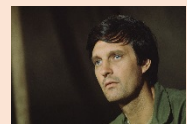
Bill Becker, who still cranks out a periodic newsletter called the "Carpetbagger" for the 801st/492nd Bomb Group, said he never knew the names of the quiet guys who sat in the belly of his B-24 waiting to parachute into Norway. The crews just called them all "Joe." He also never knew where his plane might be going—the pilot and navigator kept that to themselves. The belly turret guns of the B-24s had been ripped out and replaced with a lid that would open up to let the soldiers assigned to the OSS make their jumps. The crews called it the "Joe Hole."

"I never knew the agents that we might be dropping," Becker said. All he knew was that, from time to time, a black Chevrolet would pull up next to his plane and several paratroopers would step out, just before takeoff. "They got on at the last minute," he said. The crews were all sworn to secrecy and for years after the war never spoke of their experiences—not to their families or anyone else, Becker said. The "Joes" were mostly Norwegians and Norwegian-Americans specially recruited for the 99th Infantry Battalion (Separate), known as the "Viking Battalion," said Erik Brun, a retired Army National Guard lieutenant colonel whose father, Christian Brun, served in the 99th. They trained in Alpine warfare at Camp Ripley and Fort Snelling in Minnesota and at Camp Hale in Colorado, with other troops that would later form the Army's 10th Mountain Division. Troops from the 99th would participate in Operation Rype, the Norwegian word for "Grouse", in the effort to liberate Norway from the Nazis.

In an official report to the Army on the crash of Bosch's plane into the mountain, Colby, the major who later became CIA director, wrote that members of his unit heard the sound of a crash on April 7, 1945. A patrol was sent to investigate but found nothing and had to turn back in bad weather. A local reindeer herder later informed the Colby unit of the approximate location of the crash, and on April 22, a second patrol found the site. Colby wrote that the plane appeared to have hit the mountain and then bounced down the craggy slope. "It is also believed that from the conditions and positions of the bodies that all were killed instantly," Colby wrote. The plane itself was shattered in pieces, but all 12 bodies were identifiable from their dog tags. Colby said "The bodies were removed from the wreck and wrapped in parachutes found in the area" and "they were buried in a rock cavern on a slight knoll overlooking the site. A brief ceremony was held at the site and an American flag was placed over the grave." All 12 bodies were recovered after the war and the remains were returned to their families.

How Alan Alda's military career shaped his time on M*A*S*H*

Alan Alda joined the Army Reserve after graduating from Fordham University. He had a brief tour compared to the thousands who fought and died in the War. He spent six months in charge of a mess tent in Korea as part of the Army Reserves. "They had designs of making me into an officer but, uh ... it didn't go so well," he told an audience in 2013. "I was in charge of a mess tent. Some of that made it into the show." When serving troops their meals, he observed how shell-shocked some of them looked and that they barely touched their food. Set during the Korean War, "M*A*S*H" starred Alda as surgeon Hawkeye Pierce. The doctors on the show often used humor and hijinks to distract themselves from the war. But the show also wasn't afraid to explore the darkness and horror of being in a combat zone. There was always intensity and sadness bubbling under the surface that spewed out at certain moments.



excerpt from *Soldier Today*
22 July 2021



MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION AUXILIARY STATE ASSOCIATE LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name (Last) (First) (Middle) (Maiden)

Address (Street and/or P.O. Box) City State Zip Code

Phone Number (Home) (Work or Cell)

Email Address

Spouse

Your Birthday Anniversary

COST OF STATE LIFETIME ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: \$100.00

DATE SIGNATURE

Please mail this application along with application dues to:

Treasurer Pat Burchfield 2443 Dogwalk Road Tutwiler, MS 38963

Please Make Checks Payable To MS NG NCO ASSOCIATION AUXILIARY

ENLISTED BY

Individuals who support the objectives of the Auxiliary but do not otherwise qualify to join as annual or lifetime members, we invite you to join as a state associate lifetime member. Currently the Mississippi Auxiliary has fourteen (14) State Associate Lifetime Members. The Mississippi Auxiliary appreciates your support!



**EANGUS AUXILIARY LIFE NATIONAL ASSOCIATE
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Life National Associate Membership may be issued to individuals who support the objectives of the ENLISTED ASSOCIATION OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY but do not otherwise qualify for annual or lifetime membership. A national life associate member shall not be a voting delegate, eligible for scholarships, or qualified to hold office in the AUXILIARY. Dues are \$100.00 (one hundred dollars). This is a onetime non-refundable payment.

Request for Life National Associate Membership

Date _____ Member ID _____
(Member ID will be assigned)

State Auxiliary Affiliation _____
(If applicable)

Name _____

Company/Corporation Name _____
(If applicable)

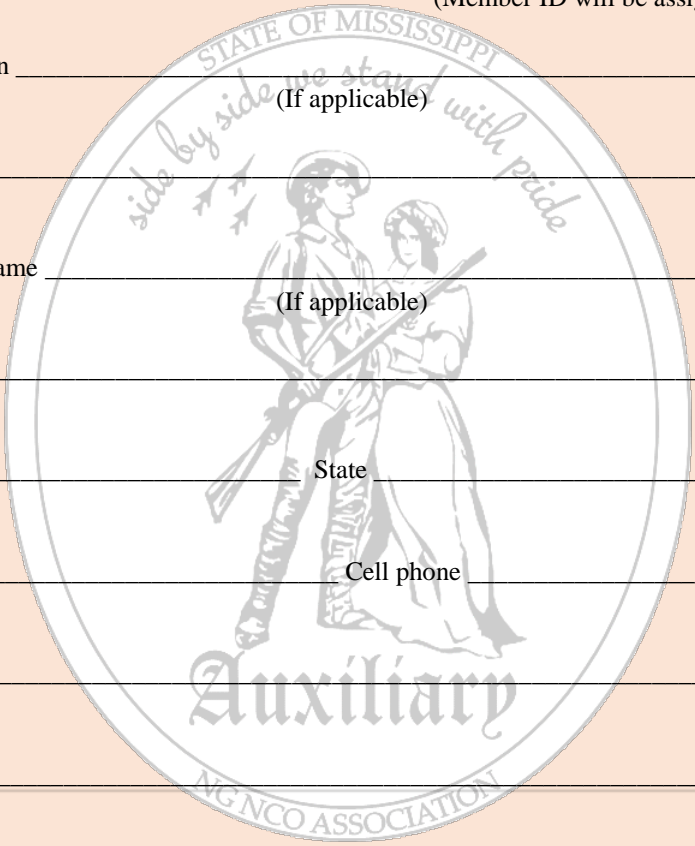
Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Email _____

Signature _____



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**MS NG NCO ASSOCIATION
AUXILIARY
PAST PRESIDENTS**

1970-71—Dot Brown, deceased	1996-97—Suzie Stewart
1971-72—Doris Williams, deceased	1997-98—Barbara McCay
1972-73—Virginia Brown, deceased	1998-99—Shirley A. Ritter, deceased
1973-74—Agnes Tupman, deceased	1999-2000—Janet McCullum*
1974-75—Ruth Ann Crawford, deceased	2000-2001—Pearleen Pearce
1975-76—Dianne Sullivan	2001-2002—Phyllis Barranco, deceased
1976-77—Delores Ford, deceased	2002-2003—Karla Dickens
1977-78—Dot Dudley, deceased	2003-2004—Pat Burchfield
1978-79—Beverly Hurst	2004-2005—Christina Ammons
1979-80—Elwanda Keith	2005-2006—Gloria Cooley
1980-81—Billie Davis	2006-2007—Connie Myers
1981-82—Beverly Lee, deceased	2007-2008—Danna Davis
1982-83—Dot Brown, deceased	2008-2009—Florence Wright
1983-84—Judy Harris	2009-2010—Pat Bishop
1984-85—Ann Hart	2010-2011—Karen Solots
1985-86—Dot Pee, deceased	2011-2012—Pat Burchfield
1986-87—Paulette McLeod, deceased	2012-2013—Pat Burchfield
1987-88—Paula Carrigan	2013-2014—Cathy Adams
1988-90—Brooks Marr	2014-2015—Cathy Adams
1990-91—Ancia Lowery	2015-2016—Christina Thomas*
1991-92—Mildred Geary, deceased	2016-2017—Connie Myers
1992-93—Danna Davis	2017-2018—Connie Myers
1993-94—Doris J. Hoxie, deceased	2018-2019—Angelia Carnes
1994-95—Linda B. Bishop, deceased	2019-2020—Angelia Carnes
1995-96—Vivian D. Taylor	2020-2021—Connie Myers

*unable to complete term

