VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA

NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION'S WEEKLY REPORT

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Jan 20 – Jan 26, 2024

STAFF ACTIVITY

- NS Staff actively continues working on the annual Washington Conference. This ongoing effort focuses on detailing and organizing various aspects of the conference.

- NS Staff worked on final details for the Annual ANAVICUS Breakfast.

- NS Staff continues to receive and process Law Enforcement and Fire Fighter of the year award packets in preparation for Washington Conference rewview and voting.

- NS Staff met with veteran program coordinators from Arizona State University (ASU) to discuss military quality of life and the recent BASE Program visit to MCAS Yuma.

- NS Staff completed final edits for the BASE Report visit for MCAS Yuma, once the report is formatted and approved, it will go to the Installation Commander in Yuma, Arizona for review and final discussion.

- NS Staff began reviewing Resolutions ahead of Washington Conference and preparing fact sheets and logistics for the Resolution Screening Committee Meeting.

- NS Staff met with Ethan Brown, a senior fellow at the Center for the Study of the Presidency & Congress, regarding the current military recruiting crisis and his recent article. Read here.

- NS Staff met with the DC Public Relations Manager and Legislative Division to discuss upcoming engagements on Capitol Hill on various subjects including Border Security, Military Quality of Life and the Department of Defense.

- Next week, the Congressional Quality of Life Panel chaired by Rep. Don Bacon (NE-3) will host a hearing with the service Senior Enlisted Leaders to discuss various quality of life issues with a focus on barracks housing. The witnesses include:

- **Sergeant Major Troy E. Black**, Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- **Sergeant Major Michael R. Weimer,** Sergeant Major of the Army
- **Master Chief Petty Officer James M. Honea,** Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy
- **Sergeant Major Carlos A. Ruiz,** Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps
- **Chief Master Sergeant Joanne S. Bass,** Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force
- **Chief Master Sergeant John F. Bentivegna,** Chief Master Sergeant of the Space Force

Note: The hearing will be livestreamed here on Wednesday, January 31st at 10:00 EST.

POW/MIA

Jan 23, 2024

- Soldier Accounted for from Korean War (Crayton, T.)

DPAA has identified/repatriated **6** service members this year.

PROGRAMS (The American Legion Military Surplus Equipment)

- Processed request: Ammo – 3,720; Rifles – 8; Clips – 0; Static Displays – 0
- Participants: Posts – 3; Departments – 3

TIP OF THE WEEK

*** Attention***

NS Staff is in need of assistance from all Legionnaires regarding the following matter: Recently, several departments have brought to our attention issues regarding TACOM equipment. Some posts are failing to abide by the terms of their Conditional Deed of Gift (CDG). Specifically, some posts are not completing their triennial inventory and reporting requirement. Others are failing to sign their CDG upon initial receipt of the TACOM equipment.

The Army Donation Program Office (ADPO) finally contacted the NS Staff this week regarding these issues. It is imperative that we as an organization represent our community well by adhering to the terms of our agreement. The CDG is a non-negotiable requirement to participate in the TACOM program. Failure to comply with the CDG will require posts to relinquish control of said equipment. This will certainly impact our ability to serve our veteran community to the degree that they deserve. Please continue to pass word on requirements of this program to every Post in The American Legion.