

REPORT OF AVP, VETERANS AFFAIRS AMM 2011

Dear Members, Veterans Affairs remains a matter of great concern in spite of the major improvements toward our healthcare, troop deployments, a greater focus of female medical needs, family support efforts, and the economy. As every knows our returning military service members and their families are facing very difficult times with wounded care and joblessness which gives this organization and other service organization a greater opportunity to continue serving our nation.

Thank you for the continued opportunity to serve you and USAWOA as AVP Veterans Affairs. As always, my continued gratitude to those that help me in providing you timely and valuable information; much thanks to the Home Office, Don, Dave, Herb and other staff members.

The Department of Veterans Affairs continues to make vast improvement under our National Leadership as many changes have been made in the professional and support staff. These ongoing changes are improving the quality of life and services to our veterans and their families; educational benefits have been upgraded, homeless veterans are seeing more funding made available, Agent Orange cases have received faster claims processing since being acknowledged as presumptive service-connected, survivors of veterans and service member benefits such as Aide and Attendance have been strengthened by the establishment of an office for their advocacy. We are seeing more coordination between the Secretary's of VA and Defense.

Our Nation continues to be engaged in several conflicts outside our borders and your continued support to the soldiers and their families is of extreme importance and required. Service organization like ours should still focus on active, retired and veteran soldiers; it is good to develop career paths for promotions and professional development but please don't those that have served as well. Like Admiral Mullens has requested we, as a military organization, we must continue support our deployed and returning troops during their transition back home and those continuing to serve on active duty; all communities throughout our Nation are tasked with insuring that our soldiers and family members that are in need receive the best care possible and provide for their readjustment and extend benevolence by supporting the many veterans service organizations and charities.

Thanks for continuing to provide information to retirees relative to educational studies, Warrant Officer staffing, and current active duty events; the Corps does not have a program in place to update retired Warrant Officer on matters relating to operational matters in the same as other senior officers. The former Chief of Staff, Army established the Profession of Arms Retiree Advisory Network for future planning and we are hoping that an opportunity to provide information for consideration; we will provide information as it become available.

Mr. President and members, again thank you for the continued opportunity to serve and to give back to those that are serving and have served this great Nation. It has been a great pleasure to serve you and the Association and should you desire I am willing to continue to serving the **CORPS**.

Respectfully submitted,

PERCY D. BUTLER
CW4, USA, Retired
AVP for Veterans Affairs

Here is a ruling that I received concerning my own case whereby an award of 40% for combat related disease/injury was approved retroactively to August 2005; however, a guideline for payment from DFAS refused to pay the entitlement of \$572 based on Method A (Chapter 61) Disability Retirement CRSC **REDUCTION**: “ Ther CRSC payment will be reduced by the amount by which a member’s Method A disability pay exceeds the amount of Method B retired pay. The CRSC payment cannot exceed pay entitled based on years of service (Method B). Clarification for this guidance was implemented June 1, 2004.” Over a 20 year period, this represent an annual loss of \$6864 or over a 20 year life expectancy \$137,280 to my family. Remember this applies only to those of us medically retired after 20 YOS (voluntary or involuntary).