



The REGISTER

Selective Service System

THE REGISTER

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Selective Service System Holds Regional Training Conferences

Selective Service System (SSS) State Director for South Carolina, retired Maj. Gen. Earle Morris, hosted the Region II State Director/Commanders Conference that was held from Oct. 31 through Nov. 2, 2001, in Charleston. Guest speaker for the conference was the Hon. Alfred Rascon, Selective Service Director. In attendance were 15 State Directors, 35 Detachments Commanders, several members of the Region II Headquarters staff, and SSS Director of Operations, Justo Gonzalez, Jr. It was a great learning experience and a great time was had by all. Additional regional conferences are scheduled for Region I on Dec. 2-4, 2001, in Chicago, Ill., and for Region III on Dec. 10-11, 2001, in Las Vegas, Nev. [SSS](#)



Selective Service Director Alfred Rascon.



Selective Service Director Alfred Rascon with Region II staff. Pictured left to right: Rene Haney, Brenda Nightingale, Brenda Conner, Beverly DeLong, Director Rascon, Capt. Alan Stout, Micki Graham, and Col. Keith Scragg, Region II Director.



Retired Maj. Gen. Earle Morris, Selective Service State Director for South Carolina addresses the media.

Former U.S. Representative "Jerry" Solomon Dies

The Selective Service System (SSS) mourns the loss of former U.S. Rep. Gerald B. H. Solomon who died on Oct. 26, 2001, of congestive heart failure at his home in Glens Falls, N.Y. He was 71.

An outspoken conservative and Marine Corps veteran, Solomon served in the House of Representatives for 20 years before retiring in 1999. During his last four years in Congress he was chairman of the powerful House Rules Committee.

Solomon, the recipient of two Selective Service Distinguished Service Awards with Gold Medals, was a strong supporter of the Agency. He almost single-handedly, time and again, led floor debates in the House opposing efforts by SSS detractors to put an end to the Agency. His defense of Selective Service was always successful, and the Congress voted to provide continued funding for the Agency.

Solomon will also be remembered as the sponsor of the 1982 "Solomon Amendment," which links a man's eligibility for student financial assistance under the Higher Education Act (e.g., student loans and grants) to compliance with the SSS registration requirement.

Solomon served on the Foreign Affairs Committee and was the ranking Republican on the Veterans Affairs Committee before chairing the Rules Committee. He always stood out to C-SPAN viewers during House floor debates because of his outspokenness. Many of his colleagues referred to him as "pit bull of the House."

President Bush paid tribute to Solomon, calling him "a true patriot," and adding, that "Jerry Solomon will always be remembered as true to his creed: duty, honor, and country."

House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., was "stunned and saddened" to learn of the death of "this truly great American. Nobody exemplified the spirit of America better than Jerry Solomon. And nobody was willing to fight harder for freedom than Jerry Solomon."



Former U.S. Rep. Gerald Solomon.

Born in Florida, Solomon grew up in Glens Falls, N.Y., 45 miles north of Albany. He attended Siena College in Loudonville, N.Y., before dropping out to serve in the Marine Corps during the Korean War. He finished his education at St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y., after the war.

He lived in Queensbury, N.Y., and worked there as an insurance agent. He also served as town supervisor from 1968 to 1972, and then in the New York State Assembly until he won election to Congress in 1978.

He declined to run for reelection in 1998 and spent this time between New York and Washington working as a lobbyist for such clients as General Electric Company.

Solomon's funeral was held on Oct. 30, 2001, in Glens Falls, N.Y. Agency Director Alfred Rascon sent flowers to the funeral on behalf of all SSS employees. Jerry Solomon is survived by his wife, Freda, whom he married in 1955; his five children; six grandchildren; and a brother. **SSS**

Promotions and Retirements

Major to Lieutenant Colonel

Congratulations to Lt. Col. Dianna Cleven (second from the right) on her recent promotion. Cleven, Region I Executive Officer, pinned on her new rank as lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army in a ceremony on July 24, 2001. On hand to celebrate the occasion with Cleven were the Region I staff and friends, including Region I Director Col. Glen Ford (far left), her husband, Dennis, and their daughter, Millie. To make the day even more special, Cleven's parents, Bob (far right) and Ola Mae (second from the left) Carson, came from east Tennessee to share this day with their daughter. **SSS**



Happy Retirement: Jesse Talley

After 40 years of service, Jesse Talley, Sr., Board Program Manager, at Region I, said good-bye to the Selective Service System (SSS) on June 1, 2001.

Talley began his tenure with the Selective Service System in 1961 as an assistant clerk in the Agency's Chicago office. From there he went on to serve as the Assistant Chief of Operations with the Illinois State Headquarters.

In 1975, Talley was the only SSS official in the Chicago area to manage the Chicago Area Offices, thus he was responsible for closing all of them down when the Agency went into "deep standby." In 1982, Talley, along with Norma Harris, Marcella Savage, and Jackie Bradbury, served as the Operations Staff Officers responsible for activating what was referred to as the Mobilization Headquarters (MOTH), which would later become Region III Headquarters and ultimately Region I. When the Region

Headquarters re-established its Local, District, Appeal, and Civilian Review Board programs, Talley became the Board Program Manager, managing the boards in eight states.

Talley, referred to by his colleagues and friends as the "Dean of Selective Service," because of his extensive knowledge of the Agency, saw nine Presidents and nine Agency directors during his

(Continued on page 8)



Left to right: Sandra Talley (Jesse's daughter), Jesse Talley, Sr., and Jesse Talley, Jr.

Selective Service Reserve Force Officers Answer the Call

By Capt. Rich W. Settino

Editor's Note: As a result of the tragic events on Sept. 11th, there have been many stories of devastation and terrific heroism. Here is one story from two Selective Service Reserve Force Officers who witnessed the aftermath of Sept. 11th.

Immediately following the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, Selective Service System officers of New York City (1NZ) answered the call. Lt. Col. C. L. Rivera, the unit's executive officer, and Capt. Richard W. Settino, unit training officer, both responded to the emergency.

Rivera has served the Selective Service detachment for 22 years. He was a New York City Police Department officer when the World Trade Center was bombed in 1993. During that bombing he responded with his canine partner to assist in the effort to locate victims buried in the rubble. For a second time, Rivera found himself in the mix of confusion, death, and panic.

On the afternoon of Sept. 11, 2001, he reported to the closest armory as instructed by the Governor of New York. As an artillery officer, he felt the brotherhood of the 1/25 Field Artillery. He sat in horror as the television images showed the first and then the second jetliner strike the towers. Once the orders to move out were given, he sat in silence throughout the trip into the city. As he approached Ground Zero, Rivera could see the cloud of smoke and could only imagine what awaited him and his fellow cannoneers.

The scene resembled that of an aftermath of a volcano eruption combined with a massive air bombardment, with ashes and smoke-filled air. The skeletons of the

World Trade Center Towers stood in eerie contrast against the clouds of smoke and burning pieces of what once was a major component of our skyline. Only death and destruction filled the air, and New York City was converted into a war zone.

Settino, a newly assigned aviation officer, was driving to his office in downtown Manhattan, stopped at a traffic light just two blocks north of the World Trade Center, when the first jetliner flew overhead and slammed into the tower. Debris, a large cloud of



smoke, and thousands of sheets of paper filled the air. Crowds of people began running north. Driving a few blocks north, he watched in disbelief as a second jetliner flew into the south tower. It was then that he understood what was happening. Settino drove to the 7th Regiment Armory where a number of soldiers had already arrived and signed in. He was

assigned to the 107 CSB as a staff officer for September 11th and 12th and assisted the unit's executive officer in S4 and S3-Air duties.

On the evening of the 12th, a military representative of the Emergency Operations Center working at ground zero assigned Settino to work as an aviation liaison officer for the National Guard. He was relocated to the New York City Police Aviation Facility located at Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn. Settino established a working relationship with the NYPD, arranged for the housing of pilots and crews, and coordinated the parking and refueling of National Guard aircraft. He assisted with flight operations for the next six days.

By the 18th, aviation operations were drawing down. Rivera suggested that Settino join him with the 1/258 FA, the unit he had been working with since the 11th. Settino augmented the battalion staff and assisted in various duties as required by the commander and the S3 through Sept. 22, 2001.

Rivera and Settino, citizen-soldiers, feel they accomplished some good in a very tragic situation. **SSS**



Lt. Col. C.L. Rivera at the World Trade Center on Sept. 12, 2001.



Barbara McConaghy Leaves NHO

On Sept. 28, 2001, Barbara McConaghy, manager of the Agency's Readiness Division in the Office of Operations, retired from the Selective Service System (SSS) after 30 years of service to the federal government, 27 of which were spent with the SSS.

McConaghy joined the Agency in 1969 as a clerk typist at the Nevada State Headquarters, but in 1976, she went to work for the U.S. Department of Transportation after the Selective Service went into deep standby.

She rejoined the SSS in 1981, as the program officer at the Region V Headquarters in San Francisco, after the Agency was revitalized.

McConaghy transferred to National Headquarters in 1986 as a training specialist, was promoted to the Training Branch Manager in 1989, and in 1993 was promoted to Training Division Manager. While in this



Barbara McConaghy

position, she completely redesigned the Reserve Force Officer and Board Member Readiness Training Programs.

In 1994, she was promoted to Readiness Division Manager where she developed and implemented

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CFC Campaign Goes To The Dogs

The Selective Service System National Headquarters (NHQ) went to the dogs on Oct. 2, 2001, when the Agency kicked off its annual participation in the 2001 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). The CFC is the



Left to right: David Wyttenbach of Virginia Search and Rescue Association, Inc., his dog, Hero, and Lew Brodsky, Director of the Selective Service System Office of Public and Congressional Affairs.

fund raising drive undertaken by all U.S. Government agencies as a part of the United Way campaign. Each year, federal civilian employees and military personnel throughout America raise millions of dollars through the CFC to benefit thousands of nonprofit charities and social service organizations.

Building upon the national campaign theme, "Caring is Sharing," the SSS Office of Public and Congressional Affairs (PCA) organized the kickoff with a unique sub-theme, "Dogs are For-giving, People are Too." In keeping with this idea, PCA focused Agency attention on three representative, canine-related, social service organizations. Representatives from Dogs for Disabled Americans (NEADS), Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind, Inc., and Virginia Search and Rescue Dog Association, brought dogs to NHQ and spoke about the work of their organizations. This

was the first time live animals were present at NHQ for an Agency event, which naturally generated much interest and attention.

Continuing the canine theme during the two-week-long NHQ campaign, PCA conducted a “Hot Dog Day” on Oct. 11 to boost awareness and spur additional giving. Leading up to Hot Dog Day, each employee who pledged or donated to the CFC, received a token good for one New York-style hot dog, complete with all the trimmings (hot sauerkraut included), chips and a soda. To whet appetites, on Oct. 9 another live canine paraded through NHQ, visiting every office. Allie, a golden retriever owned and trained by PCA’s Lew Brodsky, served as NHQ CFC mascot and wore signs urging employees to “Be a Hot Dog, Get a Hot Dog...Pledge to CFC” (see photo).

On Hot Dog Day, three rolling food carts manned by apron-clad PCA employees made the rounds and delivered hot dogs to employees at their work stations. Some employees scurried to complete their CFC pledge cards just before the carts passed them by.

Hot Dog Day was a success. When the food was gone and the pledges totaled, NHQ had not only met its CFC goal, but surpassed it in a record-setting six working days. By the close of the NHQ



Public Affairs hot dog vendors left to right: Lew Brodsky, Alyce Teel Burton, and Janice Hughes.



“Allie,” Combined Federal Campaign Mascot for National Headquarters.

campaign on Oct. 16, 2001, employees had contributed over \$27,000 to the CFC, which represented 113 percent of the \$24,000 campaign goal. Additionally, all 81 NHQ employees participated in the 2001 campaign...a 100 percent participation rate.

“This says a lot about the good people who work at Selective Service,” noted Agency Director Alfred Rascon. “We have continued our proud tradition of giving generously to assist our fellow citizens who find themselves in less fortunate circumstances. It is just one more way that the

Selective Service System helps to keep America strong and free.” **SSS**

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Viewpoints herein do not represent official policy.



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career with the SSS. He could easily recount what the Agency was like in the days of Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, and told stories about the "break-ins" at Agency area offices during Vietnam. He could also clarify old Agency policies and procedures. Despite his vast knowledge of the Agency, he was never boastful or pushy. Talley could be depended upon to provide a historical perspective when needed.

Colleagues and friends will miss Talley. "We are grateful for having known him and proud of his accomplishments, but we are sad to see him go," said Col. Glen Ford, Region I Headquarters Director. "We hope he enjoys his well-earned retirement." In retirement, Talley plans to volunteer more of his time at his church. **SSS**



McConaghy, cont'd from pg. 6

a totally new mobilization process known as "Time-Phased Response."

McConaghy received many awards, including the Selective Service System Meritorious Award with Bronze Medal and the Selective Service System Distinguished Award with Gold Medal.

McConaghy will be greatly missed by her friends and co-workers. "Barbara was one of those rare patriots who dedicated a career to this Agency," said Justo Gonzalez, Director of Operations. "Her immeasurable contributions and most distinguished public service will have a long-lasting influence on those who served with her. We will always remember her unswerving dedication to the Selective Service and its mission."

McConaghy and her husband, Mac, have retired to their native state of Nevada and plan to spend their days in relaxation and warmth. **SSS**



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