



The REGISTER

Selective Service System

THE REGISTER

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Selective Service Mourns the Passing of Former Director

The Selective Service family was saddened to learn of the passing of the Honorable Thomas K. Turnage, who served as the sixth Director of Selective Service from Oct. 30, 1981 to March 23, 1986. General Turnage died on Dec. 10, 2000, at his home in Rancho Mirage, Calif. A veteran of World War II and Korea, General Turnage lost his battle with cancer. He was 77.

General Turnage's funeral was held on Dec. 28, 2000, at Fort Myer, Va. The Honorable Gil Coronado, Selective Service Director, who was in attendance, provided a memorial wreath on behalf of the Agency. Also in attendance were Edwin Meese, III, former U.S. Attorney General under President Ronald Reagan, and Samuel K. Lessey Jr., former Selective Service System Director (Dec. 18, 1987 to March 7, 1991). Turnage's remains were laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery where he received full military honors.



Maj. Gen. Thomas K. Turnage



Turnage received a Presidential appointment as Director of the Selective Service, a post he held for four years until President Reagan named him to serve as the Administrator of Veterans Affairs. On March 24, 1986, he was sworn in as the 13th person to

head the Veterans Administration since it was established in 1930. As the VA Administrator, Turnage headed the largest independent agency in the Federal government, comprised of one of the world's largest medical systems and operating programs providing benefits and other services to veterans and their families.

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Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient Completes Tour of Duty with Agency

On Jan. 3, 2001, employees at the Selective Service System National Headquarters bid farewell to Alfred Rascon, who retired from his position as Inspector General for the Agency. "We will miss Alfred very much," said Deputy Director Willie L. Blanding, Jr., "but we wish him the best in his future endeavors."

Before leaving the Agency, Rascon, who is also a recent Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, was invited to join Defense Secretary William S. Cohen and several other celebrity guests on a trip to visit American troops to spread good cheer during the holiday season.

Several thousand service men and women and their families turned out to greet Cohen on his fourth and final holiday tour, which was co-sponsored by the USO. Cohen, his wife, Janet Langhart Cohen, and the other guests visited troops in Italy, Germany, Kosovo, and Bosnia.

Some of the other celebrity guests joining Rascon on the tour included: singer-songwriter, Jewel; singer-songwriter, Carole King; former Marine fighter pilot, astronaut, and Ohio Sen., John Glenn; former Pittsburgh



Pictured left to right: Defense Secretary William S. Cohen; Alfred Rascon, former Selective Service Inspector General; and Mike Singletary, football Hall of Famer.

Steelers quarterback, Terry Bradshaw; football Hall of Famer, Mike Singletary; baseball Hall of Famer, Ernie Banks; Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient, Sammy L. Davis; and the Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders.

Former Director Mourned

(cont. from page 1)

Turnage was commissioned through the ROTC program in 1942 and subsequently assigned to all three of the Army's components: Active, National Guard, and Reserve. He was an experienced combat veteran, serving as a combat infantry officer during World War II and again during the Korean conflict. He also served in the California Army National Guard as the Deputy



Commanding General of the Military Department of California, as well as Commander of the 40th Infantry Division (Mechanized). In addition to receiving two awards of the Combat Infantry Badge for World War II and Korea, he was also awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal and numerous service medals reflecting two wars and four tours of active duty. He was honored with the French Legion of Honor, Korean Presidential Unit Citation, the Gwanghwa Medal (1st degree Korean Medal) and medals from various states and veteran/public service organizations. He also was honored with an Honorary Doctorate from National University, San Diego, Calif. His last tour of military duty was in the Office of Reserve Affairs, Department of Defense, with the principal objective of enhancing the effectiveness of training and mobilization readiness programs for the Selected Reserve of all military services.

After his retirement from government, Turnage participated in several other activities, including an appointment as a consultant to the Army Science Board in June 1995. Born in Texas, Turnage was married to the former Betty Jane Smith of Pasadena, Calif. Besides his wife, Turnage is survived by a son "Bo" Turnage of Ellensburg, Wash.; a daughter Andrea Turnage of Rancho Mirage, Calif.; and four grandchildren.

Selective Service Employees Spread Holiday Cheer

Selective Service employees gave from the heart this holiday season and remembered those less fortunate.

Employees at the Agency's National Headquarters (NHO) in Arlington, Va., donated food, clothing, and money to SOME (So Others Might Eat), a nonprofit interfaith agency devoted to the needs of the poorest of the poor. For the past 30 years, SOME has been helping to meet the survival needs of the homeless in Washington, D.C. They serve over 900 meals a day to the District's homeless and provide rehabilitative programs to help people get back on their feet.

This is the second year in a row that NHO employees have donated to SOME.

In North Chicago, Ill., Data Management Center (DMC) and Region I employees made donations to several organizations for the holidays.

The DMC participated in a food basket drive sponsored by the Great Lakes Naval Base. The DMC's donations accounted for one-fourth of the total food donated. An extraordinary achievement considering the DMC has 55 employees compared to the 9,000 military and civilian personnel on the base. The baskets were delivered to the Salvation Army for distribution to needy families.

Region I employees spread holiday cheer to four-legged friends. They made donations of food, used rugs and blankets, and old newspapers to the Orphans of the Storm, an animal rescue shelter in Lake County, Ill.

The DMC and Region I combined their holiday spirit and also made the holidays brighter for needy children in the area. They donated presents to foster-care children under the care of Central Baptist Children's Home (CBCH). CBCH sponsors over 4,000 children in Illinois who are in foster care, residential care, or who attend child-care facilities. Sponsored children range in age from 3 months to 14 years.

"Each of us experienced joy in knowing that our small contribution helped make Christmas 2000 a little brighter for many families, including our four-legged friends."

"The DMC and Region I staff share a deep commitment to serve the less fortunate," said Bill Delaney, DMC Director. "Each of us experienced joy in knowing that our small contribution helped make Christmas 2000 a little brighter for many families including our four-legged friends."

In Denver, Colo., Region III employees donated baskets of food to a local soup kitchen and donated money as well as food to Denver's Dumb Friends League, a local animal shelter.



DMC employees surround the foodbaskets they donated to the Salvation Army.



NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Regional Conferences

The Selective Service System's three Region Headquarters recently held conferences in their respective states to discuss various issues important to the future of the Agency. High on the list of topics was the importance of assisting states that are considering driver's license legislation in support of the SSS Registration Program.

Region I

Region I Headquarters hosted a legislative planning session in Chicago. State Directors from Region I attended this planning session to discuss methods used by the Delaware legislature to enact its recent legislation in support of the Selective Service that ties driver's license acquisition to registration. Retired Brig. Gen. William J. Tansey, Delaware State Director, described his efforts concerning the bill.

Delaware State Sen. J. Dallas Winslow, Jr., and Chief of Driver Services, Arthur G. Ericson, were present and recognized for their support of the legislation. Agency Deputy Director, Willie L. Blanding, Jr., who was also present, addressed the attendees on the status of the Selective Service System and critical Agency initiatives.



Left to right: Lt. Col. Glen Ford, Region I Director; Selective Service Director of Operations, Mr. Justo Gonzalez; Selective Service Deputy Director, Willie L. Blanding, Jr.; Chief of Driver Services for Delaware, Mr. Arthur G. Ericson; Delaware State Sen. J. Dallas Winslow; and Selective Service Delaware State Director, retired Brig. Gen. William J. Tansey.

Region II

Region II held its FY 2001 State Director/Detachment Conference in Atlanta, Ga. During the conference, attendees were given the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the Agency's Intranet and various software programs, which would be used in mobilization exercises. Also discussed was the importance of future state driver's license legislation.



Selective Service Deputy Director, Willie L. Blanding, Jr. (standing 4th from the right), with many of the state directors from Region II.

Regional Conferences, cont'd

Region III

Maj. F. Allen Miller, former commander of Iowa Reserve Detachment IA 3-8, was honored posthumously during Region III's State Director/Detachment Commander's Conference held on Dec. 12, 2000.

Miller, who was killed in August 1999 in a cycling accident near his home in Granger, Iowa (see story on pg. 7), was honored for his many accomplishments during his eight years with the Selective Service System. "Major Miller was both an outstanding officer and exceptional commander who always put forth 100 percent effort," said Myron Linn, Iowa State Director. "His positive leadership and personal attitude gained him the highest respect among those who knew and worked with him."

Miller's widow, Cathy, and their son, Brad, attended the conference and accepted the award, a Selective Service Exceptional Service Medal. Mrs. Miller spoke of her husband's devotion to the Agency and its members.



Left to right: Lt. Col. Lyle Wilkes, Region III Director; Cathy Miller; and Willie L. Blanding, Jr., Selective Service Deputy Director.

News In The Regions

Region I News

NAACP Honored

Selective Service System Deputy Director, Willie L. Blanding, Jr., recently visited the Washington, D.C., office of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) to present the Rev. Morris L. Shearin, Jr., Director of the NAACP Washington office, with the Agency's Honored Patriot Award.

Shearin, who is also a member of the NAACP Board of Directors, was recognized for his efforts to establish a partnership between the NAACP and the SSS. The cooperation ensures that young men of the District stay eligible for federal benefits and employment by complying with the federal requirement to register with the SSS.



Rev. Morris L. Shearin, Jr., Director of the NAACP Washington office and Wille L. Blanding, Jr., Selective Service Deputy Director.

Region I News, cont'd

Brig. Gen. William Boardley, Commander of the 171st Air Refueling Wing of the Pennsylvania National Guard in Pittsburgh, Pa., recently received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Selective Service System (SSS).

Lt. Col. Glen Ford, Region I Director, and Mr. John Williams, Pennsylvania State Director, presented Boardley with the certificate of appreciation for his continuous support of the Agency. "Commander Boardley graciously opens his National Guard facilities to the Pittsburgh Detachment so they can hold their drills and Local Board Continuation Training," noted Williams. "He also invites the detachment to various activities held at the Air Wing. The Agency is very grateful to the Pennsylvania National Guard and General Boardley."



Left to right: Mr. John Williams, Pennsylvania State Director; Brig. Gen. William Boardley, Lt. Col. Glen Ford, Region I Director; and Maj. Marie Lowe, Commander, PA 1-13.

Region II News

Members of the Shelby County Fiscal Court in Kentucky, proclaimed the month of September as Selective Service System Registration Month.



Pictured left to right: Maj. H. D. Callicotte, Area Office 05 Manager, Louisville, Ky., and Judge Bobby Stratton, Shelby County Fiscal Court Judge Executive, who made the proclamation proposal to the court.

Region III News

Every year the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) sponsors an Armed Forces Awareness and Military and Veterans Appreciation Day at one of their home football games held at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Ca. Many Armed Forces and recruiting organizations participate in this event by setting up promotional displays to attract the attention of the youth present for the games.

The Selective Service System participated in this event. Col. Richard Helgeson (pictured below, on the left), and Capt. Jeffrey Whitbred (pictured below, far right), of Detachment 3-5 in Los Angeles, Ca., helped staff the SSS booth at the UCLA vs. Stanford game on Nov. 4, 2000.

The Agency received excellent exposure. Helgeson and Whitbred were able to inform thousands of Los Angeles area young men about the SSS and the registration requirement during the pregame activities. "A number of inner city youth organizations and boys clubs received complimentary tickets to the game and our presence at this function provided a unique opportunity to get the attention of this difficult-to-reach target audience," said Ron Markarian, California State Director for the SSS.



Region III News

Maj. J. Allen Miller Honored



Maj. F. Allen Miller

Maj. F. Allen Miller, former commander of Iowa Reserve Detachment IA 3-8, was recently honored posthumously by Iowa State Director Myron Linn and other detachment members during an annual bike riding event held in Iowa.

RAGBRAI (Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa) is a summer tradition in Iowa. The Iowa Selective Service team decided to participate in the 2000 RAGBRAI event to honor their good friend, Major F. Allen Miller, who was killed in August 1999 when he was hit by a car while training for the ride on his bicycle.

Bike riders included 1st Lt. Bill Davis, Maj. Jack Loney, 1st Lt. Pat Kenaley, and State Director Linn, who had only three days of training; Cmdr. Luann Schetky drove the support vehicle. Loney donated embroidered T-shirts for every team member that read "Selective Service Agency" on the front and included a tribute to Miller on the back.

On the fourth day of the ride, Miller's widow, Cathy, hosted a lunch for the riders at her home in Granger. The Selective Service team was not always at the head of the pack, but many people noticed their shirts. "Our strategy was to ride slow enough to get the maximum amount of people to pass us and take note of our shirts," said Kenaley. "Our 'strategy' worked and many conversations took place about Allen and the Selective Service."



Left to right: 1st Lt. Pat Kenaley, 1st Lt. Bill Davis, and Maj. Jack Loney.

Daisy Santiago is DMC Employee of the Quarter



Daisy Santiago

The Data Management Center (DMC) recently named Daisy Santiago the DMC's Employee of the Quarter for the period ending Sept. 30, 2000. DMC Deputy Director Sue Cappo presented the award to Santiago at a staff meeting.

Santiago, the research and inquiry supervisor at the DMC, has won

this award twice, the first time was in 1989. "I am grateful for the trust and confidence that the management has in me," said Santiago, "but without the hard work of our many employees, my accomplishments would be minimal. In effect, this award is a tribute to them."

Santiago joined the DMC in 1988 as a temporary bilingual research clerk. After a few months the management at the DMC quickly recognized her value to the Agency and converted her to full-time status. She easily mastered the requirements of her position and helped fortify the Spanish

inquiry function of the Agency. She was promoted to a research assistant position in 1990, and advanced in that position until her selection in 1997 as supervisor of registrant research and inquiry activities.

"I like working at the DMC," said Santiago. "I've formed many friendships through the years, and continue to meet many good people." Patricia Miller, Santiago's supervisor, says, "Daisy is very dedicated and energetic. Such enthusiasm rubs off on others around her, forming a dynamic work environment. In addition, she possesses numerous technical abilities that assist me in effective administration of the Agency call center, written inquiry processing, and other customer service areas. She also calls the shots for the Spanish inquiry function, specifying all requirements incorporated into manual and automated systems."

Santiago's career goals include continuing her education to become more proficient with computer technology. She eventually hopes to attain a position of greater responsibility and complexity.

In honor of her exemplary performance, Santiago received a cash award, a lovely plaque, and a reserved parking place for 90 days.

California State Director Recognized



Selective Service System California State Director, Ron Markarian (center), accepts the Association of the United States Army's (AUSA) Award for Best Chapter. Markarian is president of the Central California Chapter of AUSA and the award is given for overall outstanding performance among AUSA chapters with less than 250 members.

AUSA is a private, nonprofit, professional, educational association of over 100,000 individual, business, and organization members dedicated to maintaining a strong national defense, with a special emphasis on landpower and the essential role of the United States Army.

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