Survey Results and a Word on Summer

"Our mission is to provide a forum for the open exchange of ideas and information, to support training, education and development of the NCO Corps and to foster a closer bond among its members."

The above statement runs in every issue of *The NCO Journal.* To me the key words in this mission statement are "a forum for the open exchange of ideas and information... to support development of the NCO Corps..."

What this really means is this quarterly publication belongs to the NCO Corps and if the NCOs think something needs to be said about training, leadership, soldier care and maintenance for America's Army and NCO Corps they need to put it on paper and send it to us.

The summer readership survey was our way of getting your feedback. It gave us an idea of topics you want to read more about in your journal. We received over 1,600 surveys and I read every written comment.

Most of the suggestions were valid, others asked for topics which had already been covered in previous issues. For example, one of the top five subject areas requested was the promotion system. Those articles ran in the Winter 93 and Spring 94 editions.

The most requested subject area was National Guard and Reserve topics. We've run several articles in the past four or five issues relating to NG/AR NCOs. This issue also has an interview of the command sergeants major from both services (see pages 9-11).

Our readers also want more NCOES information; joint training, NCOPD & counseling and NCO history.

The NCO history starved readers will get their fair share in the next issue (Summer 95). This edition will briefly cover areas of our history from the early pioneer days to present. We are looking at an edition of over 48 pages which will also include an extensive bibliography. The bibliography will provide readers with book titles and authors which relate to NCO history.

The summer issue will not contain letters to the editor; news and issues, book reviews or any of the other standing columns. It will only contain articles related to NCO history. We will pick-up with the regular format in the Fall 95 edition.

Needless to say, the Summer 95 issue should be a "must have" and a "must read" edition for every NCO.

Again, I thank everyone who took the time to fill out and return the survey. It helps us to get the stories you need to read. I also want to encourage every NCO to write an article for *The NCO Journal*. Remember, you don't have to be an expert writer. Just get those thoughts on paper and/or diskette and send them in. Include a phone number and address so we can get back to you with our questions.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Brenda L. Hoster

Brenda L. Hoster—Editor in Chief