

Fall In

New NCOER error code added



Error Code 80 was recently added to the NCO Evaluation Report Error Listings. The newly established code identifies inconsistent ratings. This error code applies to blocks Va, Vd and Ve and will only be used if the reviewer concurred with the inconsistent rating on the NCOER. No error code is issued if the reviewer nonconcurs and gives his/her opinion regarding the inconsistent rating. Numerous reports arrive at Enlisted Records (Human Resources Command-Indianapolis) reflecting inconsistent rater and senior rater comments and markings, sending a mixed signal to centralized promotion board panels. To view the complete Error Listing go to http://www.erec.army.mil/ncoer/error_listing.htm.

Academy needs AGR instructors

The Fort Dix, N.J., NCO Academy is looking for Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) staff sergeants, including AGR staff sergeant candidates, to serve as instructors.

For more information, call the Academy's Director of Instruction at (609) 562-3505 or DSN 944-3505.

Army leadership announces 'The Way Ahead'



Senior Army leaders have disclosed their vision of how the Army will fulfill its mission to provide necessary forces and capabilities to the Combatant Commanders in support of the National Security and Defense Strategies. "The Way Ahead," an overview of the Army Strategic Planning Guidance (ASPG), is now available online at <http://www.army.mil/>

the wayahead/. It provides an analysis of the strategic environment, national guidance and operational requirements. It also makes clear that the Army must be prepared for operations of a type, tempo, pace, and duration different from those we have structured our forces and systems to achieve. Some assumptions made and processes developed for a Cold War Army or an Army with a "window of opportunity" to transform itself, while valid at the time, are no longer relevant to the current security environment.

2004 Promotion Boards

The next board for promotion to the rank of master sergeant is scheduled Feb. 3 through Feb. 27. Another is scheduled Oct. 5 through Oct. 29. The next board for promotion to the ranks of sergeant major and command sergeant major is scheduled June 3 through June 24. There is no board for promotion to sergeant first class scheduled in 2004.

Reserves receive all commissary benefits

National Guard and Reserve military personnel and family members are now eligible for unlimited benefits at the commissary.

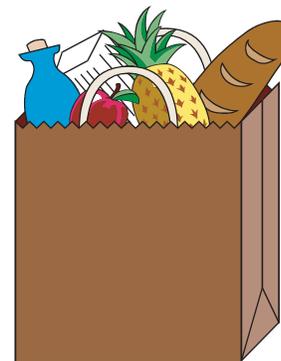
The Department of Defense announced last week that, with the President's signing of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2004, commissary benefits that were formerly part-time or nonexistent for some, are now available on an unlimited basis.

National Guard and Reserve members were authorized only 24 commissary shopping days per calendar year until the President signed the act, which eliminated the restrictions.

Individual Ready Reserve members were previously not allowed commissary access.

Members of the Ready Reserve, Individual Ready Reserve and Inactive National Guard and members of the Retired Reserve members, as well as their family members,

who possess a Uniformed Services Identification Card may shop at the commissary.



DFAS posts W-2s to myPay

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) has compiled a schedule of dates when servicemembers, military retirees and civilian employees can access their tax statements through myPay.

Military members and Department of Defense civilian employees will once again have access to their tax statements from myPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>. For assistance call myPay customer support at 1-800-390-2348.

Online voting test underway

Voters from several counties in Arkansas, Florida, Hawaii, North Carolina, South Carolina, Utah and Washington have an opportunity to participate in a test of online voting.

The Federal Voting Assistance Program is encouraging servicemembers and their family members and U.S. citizens living overseas to consider taking part in an initiative termed "SERVE" for Secure Electronic Registration and Voting Experiment.

Eligible U.S. citizens can vote from any Windows-based computer with internet access – anywhere in the world.

Check out the link at <http://www.serveusa.gov/public/aca.aspx> if you're from one of the states listed above and be part of a possible new era in absentee voting.

