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2007's
MOST
IMPORTANT
BLACKS IN
TECHNOLOGY
LIST

**Vice Admiral
Melvin G. "Mel" Williams, Jr.**
U.S. Fleet Forces Command
Deputy Commander

THE TOP BLACKS IN THE MILITARY

Women in the SES: Networking to the Top

The Senior Executive Service comprises men and women charged with leading the continuing transformation of government. These leaders possess well-honed executive skills, and share a broad perspective on government and a public service commitment, which is grounded in the US Constitution. Members of the SES serve in the key positions just below the top presidential appointees. SES members are the major link between these appointees and the rest of the federal work force. They operate and oversee nearly every government activity in approximately 75 federal agencies.

Whoever coined the phrase “blend networking into your life” accurately described one of the best ways to implement the crucial practice of networking in a hectic career.

“The opportunity for networking is always there,” explains Terri A. Dickerson, director of the Office of Civil Rights at the U.S. Coast Guard. “It’s a matter of availing yourself, and making the time for it.”

A member of the government’s senior executive corps, Dickerson says there are only two other female senior executive members in her division (the Coast Guard has nine SES positions), and all of them perform completely different jobs and work in separate buildings.

Dickerson adds, “It’d be easy to say ‘Oh well, I don’t have the time; it’s too complicated to construct a means of networking.’ But really, it isn’t true.”

One member of the small, three-person group acts as coordinator, and plans dates for the women to get together. Seminars for federally employed women, or a lunchtime speaking session at the Treasury Institute are the most likely places for a rendezvous.

“The easiest thing in the world would be for me to say ‘Oh no, I’m too busy, and I can’t,’” explains Dickerson. “But I’ve found, whether it’s the content that a speaker delivers, or whether it’s just the opportunity to get out and meet other people and engage with other women from the Coast Guard, it is just really very valuable.”



*Terri A. Dickerson, director, Office of Civil Rights,
U.S. Coast Guard*

She advises against trying to take advantage of every opportunity on offer, but says she cannot stress enough the importance of meeting other professionals on a regular basis.

One person Dickerson is lucky to have in her circle is the high profile, high-powered Coast Guard Atlantic Area Commander, Vivien S. Crea.

Dickerson said, “It’s not unlike Vice Admiral Crea to ask, ‘you want to meet in the dining room, have lunch, and go over something?’

“The more you talk to people,” Dickerson added “The more you are willing to hear feedback, which helps you develop a sense of service and stewardship beyond yourself, and beyond your own professional development goals, the better you can understand the bigger picture, the higher goals of government.”

Relationship networking not only helps Dickerson keep a finger on the pulse, it also helps her in strategic alignment, or the art of developing links between federal agencies and the demands of national defense.

Dickerson achieves this alignment, in part, through a network primarily composed of officers serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, National Guard, and Coast Guard.

A senior executive colleague at the Department of Defense coordinates the group, which meets quarterly. “Clarence Johnson is good at putting meetings together for us to talk about new directives from the E.E.O.C., and how other agencies comply.”

Dickerson also recalls how relationships she built with members of the Senior Executive Association, a professional association for career federal executives, benefited her when the SES was revamped several years ago.

“Just understanding some of the changes,” Dickerson said, “how they were going to be rolled out, the impact that was going to have, how agencies were going to be certified, was helpful.”

Dickerson’s foremost business advice is “to get away from your desk and exchange information with other people in your line of business.” In other words, network!

She attributes some of her success to having a talented group of people with which to share thoughts and ideas, because “It produces a very good sounding board, and gives you opportunity to offer insights, gain a different perspective on things. That’s where networking comes in handy.”

Dickerson has been a member of the SES since 2000. She is a member of the National Naval Officers Association, and Blacks in Government, a national body whose members include civil servants throughout all levels of government and private industry. ♦

—Lango Deen

Networking to the Top

Ask anyone who has achieved career success for his or her advice on climbing the ladder and you’re sure to hear, “Network, network, network!” Without a doubt, learning how – and with whom – to mingle can set you on the path to advancement, giving you the contacts, conversation skills and technical know-how to get the job done right.

No one knows this better than Tracey Pinson, the director of small and disadvantaged business utilization for the U.S. Army. A civilian employee (her position is equal to the rank of two-star general), Pinson is responsible for helping small businesses, including those owned by minorities, women, and those living in disadvantaged areas, work with the federal government to obtain contracts. She is also a graduate of Georgetown University Law School, and maintains membership with the Maryland Bar Association. Pinson is a mother, wife, exercise enthusiast and avid golfer, in addition to being one of the Army’s top female acquisition professionals. All of this means that she leads a very busy life, one that networking has helped to make infinitely more efficient.

Networking and the ‘Big Picture’

Pinson says that being knowledgeable is the number one most important aspect of success. Technical savvy, hard work and a dedication to continuous improvement will get you far. “But you also need to have people skills,” she explains. “You need to have the ability to manage, the ability to lead, and the ability to



Tracey Pinson, director, Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization, U.S. Army

seek out those who can help you to achieve your goals. That's where networking comes in."

She says that any time you have an opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge and your skills to others, you should take it. No one will know what you're capable of, unless you take it upon yourself to show them. Meet with and talk to as many people as you can.

"When I was just out of law school, my mother would tell me, 'You should go and talk with so-and-so,'" she recalls. "She was always trying to get me to go meet with people. And my response would be, 'Does so-and-so have a job for me?' I didn't understand the value of talking to people who were successful, people from whose knowledge and experience I could benefit. I get that now."

Look for a Friendly Face

Approaching someone you've never met can be easier said than done, and Pinson acknowledges that learning how to network can be a daunting effort for the shy or inexperienced. "You have to work within your comfort zone," she explains. "It takes a certain amount of courage to walk up to someone you don't know, and start talking to them."

The solution? Look for a welcoming face. "When you walk into a room, and you don't know anyone there, you have two choices. You can either hang out by yourself, or you can seek out a friendly face." Pinson says that in no time at all, a casual exchange with that one friendly face can lead you into a host of conversations with interesting – and potentially influential – people from a variety of backgrounds. "Someone has to start the conversation," she says. "Why shouldn't it be you?"

Pinson recommends professional association events as a great forum for networking. She remains a member of her college sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha, and is very active in the African American Federal Executive Association, of which she is a co-founder. She also stresses the importance of reading the Sunday sports page. "Learn how to talk about sports, even if you hate them," she insists. "This is especially true for women. If you can talk about sports, you can talk to anyone. It's a universal subject, and gives you a jumping-off point from which to start a conversation that has nothing to do with work." She says that getting yourself into the habit of checking sports scores, or tuning into a game or two on the weekends, will help you to develop a wealth of potential conversation starters for your next meeting or event.

Love What You Do

Networking – and career advancement in general – becomes vastly easier when you're working in a field that you love. Pinson recommends pursuing a career that you feel genuinely passionate about, one that makes you look forward to coming to work every day. "I know I'm part of a program that is making a difference," she says. "We give small business owners and entrepreneurs an opportunity to get lucrative government contracts they would have otherwise never gotten. I see the difference we make first-hand; people are constantly coming back and thanking me for what we've done for them."

Giving a voice to those who are too often unheard and helping them to navigate through the confusing bureaucratic process gives Pinson a sense of pride and accomplishment. So does working for the Army, which she says is like being a part of a large extended family. "I love the Army," she says. "It's a great place to be." ♦

—Amy Dunn Williams

African American Military Leaders Different Destinations: Same Service

This issue of USBE&IT highlights some of the top ranking men and women in America's uniformed services. They are the generals and admirals who have demonstrated bravery under fire; dedication to their cause; and steadfastness over distinguished, and challenging, careers.

Vice Admiral Melvin G. 'Mel' Williams, Jr.

*U.S. Fleet Forces Command Deputy
Commander*

"I saw my first submarine when I was a third grader," Vice Admiral Melvin G. 'Mel' Williams, Jr. says, "as a third grader I do believe I was hooked."

The boy who marveled at submarines on the waterfront in Groton, Connecticut, all those years ago has grown up. His destination as much to do with the sea stories told to him by his father, an enlisted sailor in the U.S. Navy's submarine force, as with the strong sense of service he would develop listening to discussions of the opportunities his father enjoyed serving his country.

For the Admiral, his father, Master Chief Melvin G. Williams, Sr. (U.S. Navy retired), the "Golden Thirteen" - first African Americans to serve as Naval Officers - and Admiral Elmo Zumwalt Jr., who helped provide opportunities for more minorities to enter the Naval Academy, are the most memorable examples of African Americans who have made significant contributions to military history.

"Today," the Admiral says, "we have the world's premier Navy. The future is bright, and the U.S. Navy will remain ready and capable to help win the nation's wars, deter aggression, secure access, assure our allies and friends, and promote peace and security."

To young Americans considering a career, the Admiral's advice is that "Service is an integral element of being American...I would encourage you to consider the right means and duration. That could include military service, other forms of public service. It could be two years or it could be a career."

After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1978, Williams Jr.'s first submarine assignment was onboard *USS Jack* in Groton, Connecticut. The waterfront area was where the Vice Admiral had stood pier-side with his father many years before.

Melvin G. 'Mel' Williams, Jr.

Ashore, he served as Joint Service Cruise Missile (Tomahawk) project officer at headquarters Defense Mapping Agency in Washington, D.C. Off-duty, Williams earned a Master's degree in engineering from Catholic University in northeast D.C.

As commanding officer of the nuclear -powered submarine USS Nebraska, Vice Admiral William's boat was the first Trident submarine to ever win the OMAHA trophy, which recognized the most outstanding strategic missile unit in the nation, which at the time included competition amongst all U.S. Air Force and U.S. Navy units. The success, he says, was the result of the crew's commitment to excellence and their ability to perform superbly. "Excellence became the standard and a habit, but we also had fun."

His military awards include the Legion of Merit (five awards), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (five awards), and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards). He was selected for special recognition during the 1994 Black Engineer of the Year Awards, and he won the 1995 Black Engineer of the Year Award for professional achievement in government.

U.S. Army

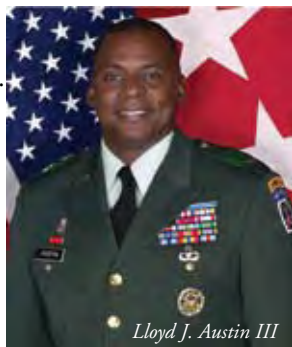
Lieutenant General Lloyd

J. Austin III

On December 8, 2006, General John P. Abizaid, U.S. Central Command commanding general, promoted Major General Lloyd J. Austin III to Lieutenant General. Austin has been

nominated to Command the XVIII Airborne Corps of Fort Bragg, and will take command December 2006. He most recently served as Chief of Staff, United States Central Command, MacDill Air Force Base, and Florida from September 2005 until October 2006, after serving as Commanding General of the 10th Mountain Division (Light), which included duty as Commander, Combined Joint Task Force 180,

Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan. He was commissioned from the U.S. Military Academy in June 1975 and earned Master's degrees from Auburn University in education administration, another in management from Webster University. Among his numerous awards and badges, he counts the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Defense Superior Service Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), and Defense Meritorious Service Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters).



Lloyd J. Austin III

Brig. Gen. Augustis Leon Collins

Commander, 155th Brigade Combat Team
Operation Iraqi Freedom

Brigadier General Augustis L. Collins currently commands a mobilized armored brigade in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is a graduate of the University of Mississippi and holds

an MBA from Jackson State University, and a Masters of strategic studies from the Army War College. He was commissioned a second lieutenant of armor in 1980, and promoted to Brigadier General on May 10, 2005, while in Iraq. General Collins' awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (with five Oak Leaf Clusters), among many others.

Maj. Gen. Byron S. Bagby

Commandant,

Joint Forces Staff College

Norfolk, Virginia element

National Defense University

Major General Byron S. Bagby served as Chief, Office of Military Cooperation, Egypt, before

coming to his current position in October 2006. He was commissioned in 1978 after graduation from Westminster College with a degree in Business Economics,

and began his Army career as a field artillery officer. He later earned an M.A. in Education Administration. From 1999-2002 he served in the Pentagon: on the Joint Staff in the Directorate of Strategic Plans and Policy, J5 as Chief, Middle East Division, and as the Assistant Deputy Director for Politico-Military Affairs (Asia-Pacific/Middle East); and on the Army Staff as the Executive Officer to the Deputy Chief of Staff, G8, HQDA. In July 2002, he became the Assistant Division Commander (Support), and later the Assistant Division Commander (Operations), both in 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry). From April 2003–November 2003, he served in Afghanistan as the Director of the Combined Joint Staff for Combined Joint Task Force-180. Among his many awards and badges are the Defense Superior Service Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal (with five Oak Clusters).



Byron S. Bagby

Brig. Gen. Sheila R. Baxter

Commander,

Madigan Army Medical Center

Western Regional Medical Command

Brigadier General Sheila R. Baxter has served in military healthcare supply and management posts at home and abroad, previously as Assistant Surgeon General for Force Sustainment/Deputy Chief of Staff for Sustainment/Chief, U.S. Army Medical Service Corps, U.S. Army

Medical Command at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. She is a graduate of Virginia State University, with a B.S. in Physical Education, and holds a M.A. in health services administration from Webster University. She was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1978, and selected for Brigadier General on August 1, 2003. Among her personal decorations are the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal and Meritorious Service Medal (with three Oak Leaf Clusters).



Sheila R. Baxter

Brig. Gen. Nolen V. Bivens

*Assistant Chief of Staff, C-3
Coalition Forces Land Component
Command
Camp Doha, Kuwait*

After being commissioned in 1976 and becoming a platoon leader, Brigadier General Nolen V. Bivens worked his way through the ranks as an infantry officer and commander of mechanized divisions at home and abroad, including service with Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq as Deputy Director of Regional Operations. Before assuming his current position, he served as Assistant Division Commander (Maneuver), 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Hood, Texas. He was selected for the rank of Brigadier General on July 1, 2004. He holds a B.S. in chemistry from South Carolina State University, and Masters degrees from the Naval Postgraduate School and National Defense University. Among his many decorations are the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal (with five Oak Leaf Clusters).



Nolen V. Bivens

Maj. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick

*Commanding General
U.S. Army Recruiting Command*
Major General Thomas P. Bostick was trained as an engineer at the U.S. Military Academy, where he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1978, and later earned Master's degrees in mechanical and civil engineering at Stanford University. He later taught engineering at West Point and commanded

engineering forces, before becoming an Assistant Division Commander. He was promoted to his current rank on July 15, 2005. Among his decorations and badges he counts the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters).



Thomas P. Bostick

Brig. Gen. Leo A. Brooks Jr.

Vice Director, U.S. Army Staff
After graduating from the U.S. Military Academy, and receiving his commission as a second lieutenant in 1979, Brigadier General Leo A. Brooks Jr. joined the ranks as a rifle platoon leader, before joining the 101st Airborne Division and later, the 75th Ranger Regiment. He earned a Master's in public administration from the University of Oklahoma. He was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General on August 1, 2003 and went on to serve as Commandant of Cadets at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point. Among his many decorations and badges are the Legion of Merit (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Defense Meritorious Service Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters), and the Meritorious Service Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters).



Leo A. Brooks Jr.

Brig. Gen. Albert Bryant Jr.

*Deputy Commander, Fort Knox, Kentucky
U. S. Army Armor Center*

Bryant is also the Deputy Commander of the U.S. Army Armor School and University of Mounted Warfare, and serves as the Director of the Unit of Action Maneuver Battle Lab (UAM-BL). Until April 2006, he was Assistant Division Commander (Support), 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Task Force Ironhorse, which conducted combat operations as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and played a primary role in the location and capture of fugitive deposed Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein. Brigadier General Bryant's awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (Oak Leaf Cluster), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (seven Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Commendation Medal (two Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Achievement Medal (one Oak Leaf Cluster), The Global War on Terrorism Service and Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medals, National Defense Service Medal (Two Stars), and the Parachutist Badge.



Albert Bryant Jr.

Brig. Gen. Vincent K. Brooks

*Chief, Army Public Affairs
Office of the Secretary of the Army*
Army Public Affairs chief Brigadier General Vincent K. Brooks earned his commission at the U.S. Military Academy in 1980, and was promoted to his current rank on May 1, 2004. He served as Deputy Chief of Army Public Affairs before assuming his current post and, before that, was Deputy Director for War on Terrorism, J-5, The Joint Staff. Among his numerous decorations and badges are the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.



Vincent K. Brooks

Brig. Gen. Robert Crear

*Commanding General
U.S. Army Engineering Division
Mississippi Valley
Vicksburg, Mississippi*

Brigadier General Robert Crear received his commission as a second lieutenant after graduation from Jackson State University, in 1976, and was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General on October 1, 2003. Prior to assuming his current duties, he served as Commanding General of the Army Engineer Division in the Southwestern region based in Dallas, and also served as Commander, Task Force "Restore Iraqi Oil" as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Iraq. Among his



Robert Crear

many decorations and badges are the Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal (with six Oak Leaf Clusters).

Brig. Gen. Michael C. Flowers

*Commander, Joint Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Accounting Command
U.S. Pacific Command
Hickham Air Force Base, Hawaii*

Brigadier General Michael C. Flowers served as Chief of Staff for Operation Joint Guardian in Pristina, Kosovo, before being named to his current high-level post. He was commissioned in 1977 after graduation from the University of Kansas, and later earned a Master's in public administration from Shippensburg University. He was selected for the rank of Brigadier General on July 1, 2004, after a distinguished career that frequently found him on the front lines in the Middle East, Haiti and Eastern Europe. Among his many decorations are the Legion of Merit (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal (with three Oak Leaf Clusters).

Brig. Gen. Elder Granger, M.D.

*Commanding General
44th Medial Command/Corps Surgeon, XVIII Airborne Corps*
Brigadier General Elder Granger, M.D., currently deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, received his medical training at the University of Arkansas before pursuing his residency at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center in Colorado. He later enjoyed a distinguished career as a hematologist, surgeon and oncologist, before joining the command ranks. He was selected for the rank of Brigadier General on June 1, 2002. Among his numerous decorations he counts the Legion of Merit (with three Oak Leaf Clusters) and the Meritorious Service Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters).



Elder Granger

Maj. Gen. Craig D. Hackett

Maj. Gen. Craig D. Hackett was until recently Commanding General, U.S. Army Security Assistance Command, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He received his commission as a second lieutenant in 1976, after graduating from Howard University, and later earned a Master's in education administration from the University of Southern California. He was promoted to the rank of Major General on January 1, 2002. His first assignment was as a platoon leader with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, and later in his career he went on to command a combat aviation battalion there. Among his decorations are the Distinguished Service Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with two Oak Leaf Clusters),



Craig D. Hackett

Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters).

Maj. Gen. David H. Hicks

*Chief of Chaplains
U.S. Army*

Major General David H. Hicks began his military career in 1974 as Chaplain to a military police battalion at Fort Dix, New Jersey. Today, he oversees all Chaplains throughout the Army. He is a graduate of United Wesleyan College, Princeton Theological Seminary, and Duke University, and has served in the U.S., Alaska and Europe, earning a Master Parachutist Badge along the way. He was selected for his current rank on August 1, 2003. Among his decorations are the Legion of Merit (with two Oak Leaf Clusters) and the Meritorious Service Medal (with five Oak Leaf Clusters).



David H. Hicks

Lt. Gen. Russell L. Honore'

*Commanding General
First United State Army
Fort Gillem, Georgia*

Lieutenant General Honore was commissioned a second lieutenant of Infantry upon graduation from Southern University and A&M College in 1971. He also holds an MA in human resources from Troy State University, as well as an Honorary Doctorate in public administration from Southern University. Prior to his current assignment he served as Commander, Standing Joint Force Headquarters-Homeland Security, U.S. Northern Command. He is perhaps best known as the cigar-smoking general brought in to bring order to flood-ravaged New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. General Honore's many decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal (with three Oak Leaf Clusters).



Russell L. Honore

Maj. Gen. Jerome Johnson

*Commanding General
U.S. Army Field Support Command
Rock Island, Illinois*

After graduating from Fort Valley State University and receiving his commission, Major General Jerome Johnson earned an M.B.A. from Syracuse University. Prior to his current position, he served as Director of Plans, Operations and Readiness, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C. He has served in numerous financial, staff and command positions in the U.S. and Europe during his distinguished career. Among his many decorations



Jerome Johnson

are the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), and Meritorious Service Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters).

Major General Ronald L. Johnson
*Deputy Commanding General /
Deputy Chief of Engineers
Washington, DC*

A 1976 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, Major General Ronald L. Johnson began his Army career with the 7th Engineer Brigade, Seventh Army, Germany. His last assignment before assuming his current assignment was as Director of Military Programs, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, D.C. And Commander, Gulf Region Division, U.S. Deputy to the Director, Program Management Office, Coalition Provisional Authority, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Iraq. He was promoted to the rank of Major General on January 1, 2004. He counts among his many decorations the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with three Oak Leaf Clusters), Bronze Star Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal (with three Oak Leaf Clusters).



Brig. Gen. James L. Kennon
*Deputy Commanding General
U.S. Army and Air Force
Exchange System Dallas,
Texas*

Brigadier General James L. Kennon worked his way through the ranks of platoon leader and quarter master to become, before his current assignment, Director, Logistics, Engineering and Security Assistance, J-4, U.S. Pacific Command, Camp HAM. Smith, Hawaii. He began his Army career after graduating from Chained University, in 1978, and was selected for advancement to Brigadier General on August 1, 2003. Along the way, he earned Master's degrees in administration from Central Michigan University, and in national resource strategy from the National Defense University. His numerous decorations and badges include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal (with three Oak Leaf Clusters).



Lt. Gen. William E. Ward
*Deputy Commanding General/Chief of Staff
U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army*

Lieutenant General William E. Ward is serving temporarily as Security Coordinator for Palestinian Peace Negotiations, in addition to his command duties. He began his Army career after graduation from Morgan State University in 1971 with a Bachelor's degree in political science. He later earned a Master's in the same field from Pennsylvania State University. He was selected to the rank of Lieutenant General on October 8, 2002.

Highly decorated during a distinguished career, among his many awards he counts the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Legion of Merit (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal (with six Oak Leaf Clusters).

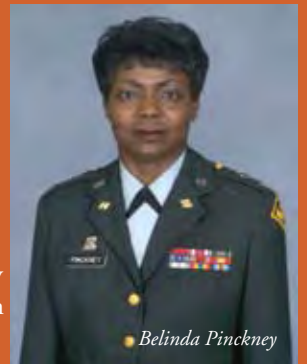
Brig. Gen. John W. Morgan III
*Deputy Commanding General/Chief
of Staff
I Corps and Fort Luis
Fort Luis, Washington*

Educated at the University of Delaware and the National Defense University, Brigadier General John W. Morgan III has served in military posts in Germany, Kosovo, Korea, Africa and Iraq, as well as the U.S., during a distinguished career that began as a second lieutenant in 1979. He was selected for the rank of Brigadier General on November 1, 2003. Prior to his current post he served as Assistant Division Commander (Maneuver), 1st Infantry Division, U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army. His numerous decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, and Meritorious Service Medal (with five Oak Leaf Clusters).



Brig Gen. Belinda Pinckney
*Deputy Director
Defense Finance Accounting Service
Arlington, Virginia*

Armed with a B.S. in business administration, an M.O. from Golden State University and M.S. from National Defense University, Brigadier General Belinda Pinckney has served a project officer, program budget officer and finance command officer during a distinguished career that began with her commissioning as a second lieutenant in 1979. Prior to her current post she served as Congressional Appropriations Liaison Officer, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), Washington, D.C. Among her decorations are the Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), and the Meritorious Service Medal (with five Oak Leaf Clusters).



Maj. Gen. Michael D. Rochelle
*Commanding General
U.S. Army Recruiting Command
Fort Knox, Kentucky*

Major General Michael D. Rochelle began his Army career in June 1972, after graduating from Norfolk State University with a degree in foreign language education. He was selected for the rank of Brigadier General on September 1, 1999, and advanced to Major



General on December 1, 2002. Prior to his current assignment he served as Commanding General, U.S. Army Soldier Support Institute, Fort Jackson, South Carolina. His many decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters).

Brig. Gen. Abraham J. Turner

Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Training U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command Fort Morn, Virginia

Brigadier General Abraham J. Turner studied music at South Carolina State University before receiving his commission in June 1976. He later earned an M.P.A. in public administration from Shippensburg University, but spent much of his career in education and training capacities before the assignment that led to his current position, which was to serve as Commanding General, U.S. Army Training Center and Fort Jackson, Fort Jackson, South Carolina. He was selected for the rank of Brigadier General on October 1, 2002, after a career that earned him many honors, including the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Bronze Star Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal (with three Oak Leaf Clusters).



Abraham J. Turner

Brig. Gen. Dennis L. Via

Commanding General 5th Signal Command/Deputy Chief of Staff, G-6

U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army

Armed with a degree in industry arts from Virginia State University in 1980, Brigadier General Dennis L. Via began his Army career as a platoon leader and, later, battalion maintenance officer and commander at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Prior to his current assignment he served as Principal Director, Global Information Grid Operations/Commander, Defense Information Systems Agency Global Operations/Deputy Commander, Joint Task Force-Global Network Operations, Defense Information Systems Agency. He was selected to the rank of Brigadier General on January 1, 2005. Among his many decorations are the Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Defense Meritorious Service Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), and the Meritorious Service Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters).



Dennis L. Via

Maj. Gen. Bennie E. Williams
Director, Logistics Operations, J-3 Defense Logistics Agency Fort Belvoir, Virginia

Commissioned after graduating from Morgan State University in 1972, and later earning a M.S. in transportation management, Major General Bennie E. Williams has served in high level command and support positions in Western Europe, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, as well as the United States during his career. Prior to his current assignment General Williams served as Deputy Commanding General, later Commanding General, 21st Theater Support Command, U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army, Germany. Among his numerous decorations are the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters).

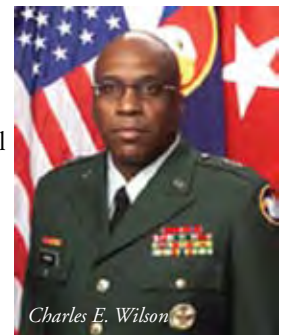


Bennie E. Williams

Maj. Gen. Charles E. Wilson

Deputy Commanding General U.S. Army Reserve Command

Prior to assuming his current command in August, 2002, Major General Charles E. Wilson served as Commanding General, 98th Division (Institutional Training), which covers brigades spread through the six New England states plus New York and New Jersey. Commissioned a second lieutenant in October 1967, he served on active duty in Vietnam, and was released from active duty in 1970. In civilian life, he served for 25 years with the Detroit Police Department, rising to the rank of Chief of Police. His U.S. Army decorations include the Legion of Merit (with one oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal (with two oak Leaf Clusters).

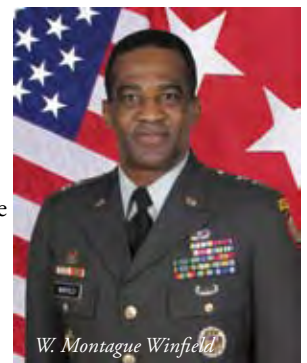


Charles E. Wilson

Maj. Gen. W. Montague Winfield

Commanding General U.S. Cadet Command Fort Monroe, Virginia

Major General W. Montague Winfield began his career in 1977 upon graduating from Virginia State University with a B.S. in health and physical education. He later received Master's degrees in media education and technology, from Virginia State University, and corporate management, from the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to taking command of cadet education, the General served as Commander, Joint Prisoner of War / Missing in Action Accounting Command, Hickham Air Force Base, Hawaii. He was promoted to the rank of Major General on October 1, 2004. His many career decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf



W. Montague Winfield

Cluster), and Meritorious Service Medal (with five Oak Leaf Clusters).

U.S. Navy

Rear Admiral D.C. Curtis

*Commander, Naval Surface Force
U.S. Atlantic Fleet*

Rear Admiral D.C. Curtis is responsible for operations of more than 100 ships. Before his current assignment he was Director, Navy Europe Programs, Strategy and Policy Director, Transformation Activities for the commander of the U.S. Naval Forces in the Sixth Fleet.

Rear Admiral Curtis received his commission from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1976 and holds a Master's degree in administration from Central Michigan University, and is a graduate of the National Defense University and NATO Defense College, among other programs. He has served in a variety of sea and shore assignments, and is the recipient numerous personal decorations, including the Legion of Merit, and Defense Meritorious Service Medal.



D.C. Curtis

Rear Admiral Victor G. Guillory

*Commander, Amphibious Force, Seventh Fleet
Commander, Amphibious Group One
Task Force Seventy-Six*

Rear Admiral Victor G. Guillory served in leadership positions at sea and ashore before assuming his current position, most recently as Commanding Officer of the guided missile frigate USS Underwood (FFG 36) and the cruiser USS Lake Champlain (CG 57). He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1978, earning a B.S. in management and technology, and is also a graduate of the National Defense University. His personal awards include the Legion of Merit and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

Rear Admiral Cecil Diggs Haney

Rear Admiral Cecil D. Haney is a 1978 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, where he received a B.S. in ocean engineering. He also holds a Master's degree in engineering acoustics and system technology from the Naval Post Graduate School, and a Master's in national security strategy from the National Defense University. He has served aboard surface and undersea vessels, and commanded a submarine squadron before being named to his current assignment. His decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (two awards), Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal (two awards), and various campaign and unit awards.



Cecil Diggs Haney

Rear Admiral Arthur J. Johnson

*Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Force Seventh Fleet
Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Force Fifth Fleet
Commander, Fleet Air Western Pacific*

Rear Admiral Arthur J. Johnson has served with distinction in the Pacific, the Gulf and the Atlantic region, as well as in leadership positions within the Pentagon. Before his current assignments, he was U.S. Pacific Command Representative, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, and Commander, U.S. Naval Forces of the Marianas. He is a 1979 graduate of the Naval Academy, holds a Master's degree in public administration from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, and is a member of the Millennium Class of the National War College. His many personal awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, and the Legion of Merit.

Rear Admiral Adam M. Robinson, Jr., M.D.

Commander, National Naval Medical Center

Chief, Navy Medical Corps

Rear Admiral Adam M. Robinson Jr., M.D., entered naval service in 1977 and earned his M.D. at Indiana University School of Medicine through the Armed Forces Health Professional Scholarship Program.

Following completion of his surgical internship at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, he was commissioned an ensign in the Navy. He later completed a fellowship in Colon Rectal Surgery at Carle Foundation Hospital, University of Illinois School of Medicine and then served as Head of the Colon and Rectal Surgery Division of the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda. He holds fellowships in the American College of Surgeons and the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgery, and is a member of numerous medical societies. He has been awarded numerous personal awards for meritorious services, including the Legion of Merit (two awards) and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (two awards).



Adam M. Robinson

Rear Admiral Anthony L. Winns

*Vice Director for Operations, J-3
The Joint Staff*

Rear Admiral Anthony L. Winns previously served as Deputy Director, Air Warfare Staff of the Chief of Naval Operations. After graduation with honors in 1978 he completed initial flight training and then advanced navigator training, becoming a Naval Flight Officer in January 1980. He was the first officer in his Naval Academy class to be selected for Flag rank, in May 2000. He later earned a Master's in financial management. He served with distinction as flight officer, executive officer and commanding officer of patrol squadrons and in staff positions,



Anthony L. Winns

and has been awarded numerous personal medals, including the Defense Superior Service Medal, and two Legions of Merit.

Headquarters U.S. Air Force

Brig. Gen. Alfred K. Flowers

Director, Center for Force Structure, Requirements, Resources and Strategic Assessments, Headquarters

U.S. Special Operations Command MacDill Air Force Base, Florida

Brigadier General Alfred K. Flowers was commissioned from Officer Training School as a distinguished graduate in 1978, after graduation from Southern Illinois University. He was promoted to his present rank in September 2004. Prior to his current assignment he served as Chief Financial Executive at the Center for Force Structure at MacDill Air Force Base. He counts among his many awards and decorations the Legion of Merit (with oak leaf cluster), and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.



Alfred K. Flowers

Brig. Gen. Darren McDew

Vice Commander, 18th Air Force Scott Air Force Base, IL

Brigadier General Darren McDew helps direct 12 Air Mobility Command wings, three groups, two expeditionary mobility task forces, and the Tanker Airlift Control Center. Commissioned in 1982 after graduation from the Virginia Military Institute, he has logged more than 3,000 flying hours as a command pilot in a variety of aircraft, and served as a staff officer at the highest command levels at home and abroad. The general received his MS in aviation management from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and is the recipient of several awards and commendations, including the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal, and Air Force Achievement Medal, among many others.

Brig. Gen. Ronnie D. Hawkins Jr.

Commander, Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama

Brigadier General Ronnie D. Hawkins Jr. is the single point manager for approximately 17,000 students in the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps programs, and 2,500 students in the Officer Training School. He controls nearly 80 percent of line, chaplain, judge advocate, nurse, medical service and biomedical science production for the Air Force. He also oversees the Air Force Junior ROTC program at more than 744 locations with more than 108,000 students. He received his commission as a distinguished graduate of the ROTC program at Angelo State University in 1977, and was promoted to his current rank on January 1, 2005. His numerous personal awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, and Legion of Merit.



Ronnie D. Hawkins Jr.

Brig. Gen. Gary T. McCoy

Director of Logistics Readiness Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics

Installations and Mission Support Headquarters U.S. Air Force Brigadier General Gary T. McCoy is responsible organizing and equipping 30,000 people worldwide. The general was commissioned through the Officer Training School in 1976, after graduation from Culver-Stockton College, Missouri. He attained his current rank on April 1, 2003. Prior to his current assignment he served as Director of Logistics and Sustainment, Headquarters, Air Force Materiel Command. Among his numerous awards and decorations are the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, the Bronze Star Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal with silver and bronze oak leaf cluster.



Gary T. McCoy

Maj. Gen. Roosevelt Mercer Jr.

Director of Plans and Policy U.S. Strategic Command Offutt Air Force Base

Major General. Roosevelt Mercer Jr. is a 1975 graduate of the University of Puget Sound, and a distinguished graduate of its ROTC program. He was promoted to the rank of Major General on January 1, 2005. Prior to his current assignment he served as Director, Combat and Information Operations U.S. Strategic Command Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska. Among his many awards and decorations he counts the Defense Superior Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, and Defense Meritorious Service Medal.



Roosevelt Mercer Jr.

Maj. Gen. Edward A. Rice Jr.

Vice Commander

*Headquarters Pacific Air Forces
Hickam AFB, Hawaii*

Major General Edward A. Rice Jr. is Vice Commander, Headquarters Pacific Air Forces, Hickam AFB, Hawaii. Prior to his current assignment he commanded America's 'Jungle Air Force' protecting airspace in the Southwest Pacific and Indian Ocean areas. General Rice is a 1978 distinguished graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, and has held numerous command and staff positions, including serving as a White Fellow at the Department of Health and Human Services, and is a command pilot with more than 3,800 flying hours. He was promoted to his current rank on August 1, 2005. His personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal (with oak leaf cluster), Legion of Merit (with two oak leaf clusters), the Meritorious Service Medal (with three oak leaf clusters), and the Air Force Commendation Medal.



Edward A. Rice Jr.

Maj. Gen. Darryl A. Scott

*Commander, Joint Contracting Command-Iraq/Afghanistan
Baghdad, Iraq*

Reporting directly to the Commander of Multinational Forces in Iraq, Major General Darryl A. Scott manages mission-critical contracting efforts in support of U.S. Forces and humanitarian relief in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Previously, as Director, Defense Contract Management Agency, Alexandria, Virginia, Major General Darryl A. Scott directed more than 11,500 military and civilian managers and technical experts worldwide for DOD weapon system programs and services. General Scott graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1974, and was promoted to his current rank on January 1, 2005. Among his many awards and decorations are the Legion of Merit (with oak leaf cluster), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with two oak leaf clusters), and Air Force Commendation Medal.



Darryl A. Scott

Brig. Gen. Larry O. Spencer

*Director, Budget Operations and Personnel, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller, the Pentagon,
Washington, D.C.*

Brigadier General Larry O. Spencer is responsible for planning and directing Air Force operations and maintenance, and military personnel annual budgets totaling more than \$50 billion. Born in Washington, D.C., he received his B.S. in industrial engineering technology from Southern Illinois Univer-



Larry O. Spencer

sity in 1979, and was commissioned through the Officer Training School. He later became the first Air Force officer to serve as Assistant Chief of Staff in the White House Military Office. He was promoted to his current rank on July 1, 2004. Among his awards and decorations are the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with two oak leaf clusters), and the Meritorious Service Medal (with four oak leaf clusters).

U.S. Marine Corps

Brig. Gen. Ronald L. Bailey

*Deputy Director, J-3 (NMCC-3)
National Military Command Center*

Brigadier General Ronald L. Bailey earned his commission as a second lieutenant in 1977 after graduation from Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN, with a degree in biology. He later earned a Master's in business management and administration from Webster University and another in National Security Strategy from the National War College. He assumed his current assignment in July 2005, after an assignment as the CMC National Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations and, before that, as commander of the 2nd Marine Regiment. His awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with combat V, Meritorious Service with two gold stars, and the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals with gold star, among others.

Brig. Gen. Ronald S. Coleman

*Director,
Personnel Management Division*
Brigadier General Ronald S. Coleman assumed his current post in July 2005, and was frocked to Major General in May 2006. His previous assignment was as Assistant Deputy Commandant Installations and Logistics, began his career as an enlisted man in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam war. After returning from the war and completing college, 2nd Lt. Coleman began his USMC career as supply officer. He earned his promotion to Brigadier General in March 2001. He holds a M.S. in national strategic resources and has been awarded numerous personal decorations, including the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (with gold star), the Joint Service Commendation Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon.



Ronald S. Coleman

Major General Walter E. Gaskin

*Commanding General
Training Command*
Major General Walter E. Gaskin graduated from Savannah State University Naval ROTC Scholarship Program in 1974 and was commissioned a second lieutenant. He earned a Master of Public Administration from the University of Oklahoma in 1992. His previous post was as Commander, Marine



Walter E. Gaskin

Corps Recruiting Command, from September 2004 until June 2006, when he assumed his current post. He was promoted to his current rank in October 2005. His many personal decorations include the Legion of Merit (gold star in lieu of 2nd award), Bronze Star Medal (with combat V), Defense Meritorious Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal.

Maj. Gen. Clifford L. Stanley

*Deputy Commanding General
Marine Corps Combat
Development Command
Quantico, Virginia*

Major General Clifford L. Stanley is a 1969 graduate of South Carolina State University. He received his M.S. from Johns Hopkins University in 1977, graduating with honors. His formal military education includes Amphibious Warfare School, the Naval War College, honor graduate of U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College, and National War College. His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal and Meritorious Service Medal, with gold star, among others.



Clifford L. Stanley

Brig. General Anthony L. Jackson

*Deputy Commander
U.S. Marine Forces Central Command*

Brigadier General Anthony L. Jackson, a graduate of San Jose State University, received his commission in 1976, and went on to serve as Assistant Chief of Staff (G-5), First Marine Expeditionary Force and deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II. During a distinguished career he has received numerous awards and decorations, including the Legion of Merit (with two gold stars in lieu of 2nd and 3rd award), Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal (with two gold stars).

Major General Willie J. Williams

*Commanding General
Marine Corps Logistics Command
Albany, Georgia*

Major General Willie J. Williams was commissioned in the Marine Corps in May 1974, and began his career as supply officer. He holds a B.A. from Stillman College, and Master's degrees from National University, Industrial College of the Armed Forces, and National Defense University, and an Honorary Doctorate of Law from Stillman College. He was selected for promotion to Major General in June 2005. His personal awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with gold star, and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

Maj. Gen. Cornell A. Wilson Jr.

*Director, Reserve Affairs Division
Manpower & Reserve Affairs
Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps
Quantico, Virginia*

Major General Cornell A. Wilson Jr. began his career as a second lieutenant tank commander after graduating from The University of South Carolina with a B.S. in chemistry in 1972. After being selected for Brigadier General in 1999, Major General Wilson was appointed Deputy Commander for MARCENT at the US Central Command and, later, commanded a combined joint task force in Kuwait in support of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. Prior to his current assignment he served as commander of the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade. His personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, and Navy Commendation Medal.

U.S. Coast Guard

Rear Admiral Stephen W. Rochon, USCG

Director of Personnel

Only the second African American to achieve the rank of admiral in the Coast Guard, Rear Admiral Stephen W. Rochon leads the USCG Personnel Management Directorate in Washington, D.C. He began his career in the enlisted ranks before being commissioned an ensign, in 1975. Rear Admiral Rochon, a passionate student of history, wrote and produced a video documentary honoring the late Alex Haley, USCG (Retired), famous author of the book 'Roots'. Prior to his current assignment he served as Acting Assistant commandant for Intelligence at the Coast Guard headquarters. His personal military awards include two Legion of Merit Medals, two Meritorious Service Medals, among many others.



Stephen W. Rochon

Rear Admiral Erroll Brown, U.S. Coast Guard

Rear Admiral Brown, the first African-American promoted to flag rank in the U.S. Coast Guard, graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in 1972. He majored in Marine Engineering and has a Master's degree in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering, with a second Master's in Industrial and Operations Engineering from the University of Michigan. He was awarded a M.B.A. at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1986, and graduated from the Naval War College with a Master's in National Security and Strategic Studies



Erroll Brown

in 1994. He also completed the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government Program for Senior Executives in National and International Security. Rear Admiral Brown is a long-standing, active member with the American Society of Naval Engineers, Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, and the American Society of Engineering Educators, and has held offices at various levels with these professional organizations. He currently serves as a program evaluator for the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. His awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Secretary's Award for Meritorious Achievement, and the U. S. Coast Guard Commendation Medal, Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Special Operations Ribbon (three awards), Bicentennial Unit Commendation Ribbon, Antarctica Service Medal, Arctic Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Expert Rifleman Medal and the Expert Pistol Shot Medal. ..

—Bruce Phillips can be reached at
BPhillips@ccgmag.com

The 21st Annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards Conference second Annual Stars and Stripes Breakfast, honoring African-American Military Leaders, will be held Sunday, February 18, 2007. To register log in at www.beya.org

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