

7th Year Edition



OUTLAW MONTHLY BULLETIN



NEW!! 924th web site: <http://924tfg.com/>

NOTE 1: We purchased the Domain name for the **Outlaw web site** at a cost of \$15 per year...got 2 years. *Donations would be greatly appreciated...*

NOTE 2: Newsletters & Recall Roster from the web site require a password: [outlaws](#)
Please keep the password in-house, we don't want outside folks having access to our email addresses etc.
---Ed Copher "924 Keeper of the Flame"



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VOL 1 Issue 85



Listen to music as you read the newsletter.

Click Here <http://www.bornagainamerican.org/> "AMERICA" then click on the Minimize minus sign (-) at the top right corner of your screen. It will then go back to the newsletter with music playing. When finished listening to music, go to your desktop home page, on the bottom tool bar, right click [Facebook/So...](#) then select close.



924th Air Force Reserve
The Unit That Refuses to Disband



Ron Thomas' 924 coat

924 Flower Fund: "Need Donations"..... running low on funds.

The purpose is to send a nice flower arrangement to all 924th funerals.

The ribbon will read; "**924th BAFB**". A flower arrangement has been sent to the last **13** funerals.

Jim Chapman is the POC for collecting funds and sending the flowers. jchapman90@austin.rr.com

Send donations to:

Jim Chapman
145 Oak Ridge Dr.
Cedar Creek, TX 78612

Ed Bailey Passed away: C-130 Navigator, 446 Airlifter from Ellington AFB

Monday, March 16, 2009

I received word today that our 446th dinner party Master of Ceremony (Ed Bailey) passed away Friday 13 March, with a massive heart attack. A family & friends get together is planned tonight between 6 & 8 pm at the Heights funeral home on Heights Blvd. A memorial service will be held tomorrow at the funeral home at 11:00. Burial will be sometime later.

Roy Powell, rpowell1958@sbcglobal.net

Obit: See Website "Latest News" for Full Obituary

A Real Hero, The Story of Ed Freeman, Vietnam Metal of Honor Winner

You're an 19 year old kid. You're critically wounded, and dying in the jungle in the Ia Drang Valley, 11-14-1965, LZ X-ray, Vietnam. Your infantry unit is outnumbered 8 - 1, and the enemy fire is

so intense, from 100 or 200 yards away, that your own Infantry Commander has ordered the MediVac helicopters to stop coming in.

You're lying there, listening to the enemy machine guns, and you know you're not getting out. Your family is 1/2 way around the world, 12,000 miles away, and you'll never see them again. As the world starts to fade in and out, you know this is the day.

Then, over the machine gun noise, you faintly hear that sound of a helicopter, and you look up to see an un-armed Huey, but it doesn't seem real, because no Medi-Vac markings are on it.

Ed Freeman is coming for you. He's not Medi-Vac, so it's not his job, but he's flying his Huey down into the machine gun fire, after the Medi-Vacs were ordered not to come.

He's coming anyway.

And he drops it in, and sits there in the machine gun fire, as they load 2 or 3 of you on board.

Then he flies you up and out through the gunfire, to the Doctors and Nurses.

And, he kept coming back.... 13 more times..... And took about 30 of you and your buddies out, who would never have gotten out.

Medal of Honor Recipient, Ed Freeman, died last Wednesday at the age of 80, in Boise, ID

May God rest his soul.....



Medal of Honor Winner

BENEFIT AIDS VETERANS of WAR: For your information.....

From the NE 10-13 Pension Rep: LITTLE-KNOWN BENEFIT AIDS VETERANS of WAR
Those who serve during conflict are eligible for up to \$19,000 a year. By Paula Burkes
Published: February 8, 2009 <http://newsok.com/article/3344150>

A little-known veterans' benefit for long-term care expenses is available to wartime veterans and their spouses. But the benefit is being overlooked by thousands of families, industry observers say.

The Special Pension for Veterans' Aid and Attendance pays up to \$1,644 a month, \$19,736 annually,

toward assisted living, nursing homes or in-home care for veterans 65 and older who served at least 90 days and one day during wartime — stateside or overseas. Veterans and their spouses can receive up to \$23,396 annually **and spouses of deceased veterans**, \$12,681.

Yet, an estimated \$22 billion a year goes unclaimed. In 2007, only 134,000 seniors nationwide received the benefit, **which was established in 1952.**

INTRODUCTION TO THE VETERANS' AID AND ATTENDANCE SPECIAL PENSION

The Veterans' Administration offers a Special Pension with Aid and Attendance (A&A) benefit that is **largely unknown**. This Special Pension (part of the VA Improved Pension program) allows for Veterans and **surviving spouses** who require the regular attendance

of another person to assist in eating, bathing, dressing, undressing or taking care of the needs of nature to receive additional monetary benefits. It also includes individuals who are blind or a patient in a nursing home because of mental or physical incapacity.

Assisted care in an assisted living facility also qualifies.

This is a "**pension benefit**" and is **not** dependent upon service-related injuries for compensation. Most Veterans who are in need of assistance qualify for this pension. **Aid and Attendance can help pay for care in the home, nursing home or assisted living facility. The Aid and Attendance Benefit is considered to be the third tier of a VA program called Improved Pension.** The other two tiers are Basic and Housebound. Each tier has its own level of benefits and qualifications. If you or your loved one does not qualify for Aid and Attendance, you may want to check to see if you qualify for another level of the Pension.

THE AID & ATTENDANCE PROGRAM

Eligibility must be proven by filing the proper Veterans Application for Pension or Compensation.

This application will require a copy of DD-214 (see below for more information) or separation papers, Medical Evaluation from a physician, current medical issues, net worth limitations, and net income, along with out-of-pocket Medical Expenses. For more general information about the Aid & Attendance Special Pension, please see <http://www.vetassist.org/faq.htm>

Q. How do I know that I qualify for Aid & Attendance?

A. The VA will require that **your physician** fill out a form establishing that the claimant requires daily assistance from others in order to dress, bathe, cook, eat, leave home, etc. The claimant does **NOT**

have to require help in ALL these areas. There simply must be adequate medical evidence that the claimant cannot function alone. <http://www.vetassist.org/eligibility.htm> The veteran served **at least one day** during the following periods **and had 90 days of continuous military service.**

World War II: December 7, 1941 through December 31, 1946

[] **Korean War: June 27, 1950 through January 31, 1955**

[] **Vietnam War: August 5, 1964 (February 28, 1961, for veterans who served "in country" before August 5, 1964), through May 7, 1975**

[] **Gulf War: August 2, 1990, through a date to be set by law of Presidential Proclamation.**

As a rule of thumb, assets should not exceed \$80,000. That amount drops depending on the age of claimant. Also included is spousal income.

SUMMARY: If the claimant meets the income criteria, the service criteria, and the net worth criteria, he or she is likely eligible for one of the Improved Pensions (A&A, Housebound or Basic Pension). It is not necessary to request the "Basic Pension" or "Housebound." Simply fill out the form as though you are requesting the full Aid & Attendance benefit. The VA will determine which level of the Improved Pension is appropriate to your situation. VA Form 21-526 (claim for a living veteran) or VA Form 21-534 (claim for death Pension from a surviving spouse). You can ask **VA** to help you fill out the **form** by calling or visiting a regional office.

SSN's To Be Removed From ID Cards:

Armed Forces News Issue: Fri, March 27, 2009

The Department of Defense is removing Social Security numbers from military identification cards, in order to combat identity theft. The process will take place in three phases. By now, all dependents should have received new cards without their Social Security numbers. By the end of the year, all uniformed personnel and retirees will receive new cards. Finally, barcodes will no longer contain embedded Social Security numbers by the end of 2012. When the process is complete, only Geneva Convention cardholders will have the last four digits of their Social Security numbers available on their military identifications. Holders of ID cards will still have to provide their Social Security numbers when using the cards.

It's official, DD-214's are NOW Online.

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214's online: <http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>

This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can be downloaded from the online web site. Because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information will be minimized. The new web-based application was designed to provide better service on these requests by eliminating the records centers mailroom and processing time.



NOAA/924th National Weather Service: About 15 former 924th folks work for the NOAA!!!!

Austin Current Weather: <http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?CityName=Austin&state=TX&site=EWX&textField1=30.267&textField2=-97.743&e=1>



Ed:

I retired from civil service and moved to Martinsburg, West Virginia last month and would like to keep getting your e mail updates on the 924th. Here's my new contact information:

Phil Steptoe philtoe@comcast.net

4 Babbling Brook Lane
Martinsburg, WV 25402
304-268-7010

Thanks for all you do in keeping everyone up to date.

Phil Steptoe

Click on the plane & and it will show you the cockpit! Amazing!!

http://www.codeonemagazine.com/test/archives/2007/articles/jan_07/cockpits/cockpits.html

Young Belgian Boy Salutes Troops: Great and very touching!!!

As someone else said after viewing: That is simply... excellent.

"A lone young Belgian boy is waiting to salute the Canadian troops pass by who had been attending a memorial service. Such class from the Canadian troops - watch what they do for this little boy. The "Eyes right" command is the biggest complement troops on parade can pay and is reserved for dignitaries in reviewing stands.

Click here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nDMzHlKB-Yg> 1:22 min video

RAO BULLETIN Update, 01 APR 2009

To read the articles go to the web site at: http://post_119_gulfport_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html



924 RECALL ROSTER

Revised 02 April 09

New & Changed Addresses:

Phil Steptoe (changed) philtoe@comcast.net

Recall Roster/ Newsletters in Archives: *Past 14 month's newsletters, and E-Mail Addresses*

Go to 924 Web Site, click on Recall Roster or Newsletters and use password ([outlaws](#))