

Regimental Awards - Reserve Component

Each year we recognize the best noncommissioned officer, lieutenant, and engineer company, in each of the components, for outstanding contributions and service to our Regiment and Army. Every engineer unit in the Regiment can submit the name and achievements of its best of the best to compete in these distinguished award competitions. Only the finest engineer soldiers are selected as recipients of these awards. They will carry throughout their careers the distinction and recognition of being the Engineer Branch's best and brightest soldiers and leaders. The results of the 2002 Active Component Itschner and Grizzly Awards and Sturgis Medal selection boards were listed in *Engineer*, April-June 2003, page 26. The selections for the Reserve Component are as follows:

The Itschner Award committee selection for the U.S. Army Reserve: Headquarters Support Company, 463d Engineer Battalion (Combat)(Heavy), Wheeling, West Virginia, and for the Army National Guard: Alpha Company 1088th Engineer Battalion, 256th Infantry Brigade, Opelousas, Louisiana.

The Grizzly Award Committee selection for the U.S. Army Reserve: First Lieutenant Mark Dibble, 652d Engineer Company (Multirole Bridge), Ellsworth, Wisconsin, and for the Army National Guard: First Lieutenant John G. St. Romain, Bravo Company, 1088th Engineer Battalion, 256th Infantry Brigade, New Roads, Louisiana.

The Sturgis Medal committee selection for the U.S. Army Reserve: Sergeant First Class Lawrence Spradley, Headquarters

Support Company, 854th Engineer Battalion (Combat)(Heavy), Kingston, New York.

All of the nominees represented their major commands with the highest professionalism and dedication to the Engineer Corps's vision and deserve our highest praise. The award recipients will be recognized at the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Ball, tentatively scheduled for 17 October 2003.

For many years, senior leaders of the Regiment have debated about an appropriate award to recognize the very best engineer soldier, private through specialist. In keeping with the tradition of naming such an award after a distinguished member of the Regiment, the Regimental Command Sergeant Major, along with other senior sergeants major, recommended and gained approval for an award named after the most distinguished command sergeant major in the history of our Regiment—the fourth Sergeant Major of the Army, Leon Van Autreve.

The award is significant for two reasons: first, it was created to recognize the most outstanding junior enlisted soldier of the three components of our Regiment as a tribute to one of our Army's greatest champions of welfare and care of soldiers and their families; second, it showcases and highlights the important and significant service our junior enlisted soldiers provide to our nation. They are truly our most valued resource, and we wouldn't be the Army or Regiment that we are without their selfless and dedicated service. The Van Autreve nominations will be submitted for FY03 and presented at ENFORCE 04.



Lieutenant General Robert B. Flowers
Chief of Engineers



Major General R.L. Van Antwerp
Commandant, U.S. Army Engineer School