

Discharge Review To End In April

The Veterans Administration reminds former servicemen and women who received less than honorable discharges that the fifteen-year limitation on applying for review of such discharges has been waived until

April 1, 1981, giving these veterans an additional six months to apply. VA Regional Director, Kenneth E. McDonald, pointed out that applications for a discharge review, or for correction of a veteran's records, may lead to eligibility for VA benefits in cases where former servicemen and women were previously ineligible.

VA benefits eligibility is based upon discharge from the service under conditions other than dishonorable. McDonald said, however, the upgrad-

ed discharges do not lead automatically, in all instances, to eligibility. For example, discharges awarded as a result of unauthorized absence in excess of 180 days can result in ineligibility for VA benefits regardless of Discharge Review Board action.

Boards for the Correction of Military Records, or VA itself, may assist veterans to overcome this restriction if the veteran can show compelling circumstances in extenuation of such an absence. Discharge Review

Boards and Correction Boards are maintained by the Army, Air Force and the Navy, and applications for such reviews may be obtained from any VA Regional Office and from National Veterans Service Organizations in each community.

McDonald said applications and a free information package on the program may also be obtained by writing to: DOD Discharge Review, P.O. Box 21, St. Louis, MO. 63166. Veterans should include their service number and branch of service.

A time to give thanks and to wish our many friends the best during the holiday season

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Iraq's Strategic Aims

By Laura Parks NNPA News Service The war between Iraq and Iran is taking place at a moment when the world is enjoying a relative surplus in its oil supplies, sufficient to last for another six months. Clearly then the outbreak of the war was planned at a moment to cause minimal damage to the world economy and at the same time to prevent the outbreak of political hysteria among the oil consuming nations.

Both the belligerent powers have appealed to the world to keep out of their war and both have promised to keep the sea lanes open to the oil tankers. In essence the warring parties wish to settle their differences free from outside interference. At the core of the matter lies the proposition that the Arab world should establish itself as a neutral and non-aligned entity, free from super-power blandishments and free to pursue its own developmental goals. Once the freedom of movement has been achieved the Arab nation can then establish its own internal social, economic and political priorities in harmony with Mohammedan and twentieth-century realities.

The leadership of Iraq is fundamentally committed to the creation of a truly

non-aligned Arab world, free from Soviet, American and Chinese influences while building a modern, viable economic state. It is said that this can best be accomplished if the Moslem conservative fundamentalism of leaders like Iran's Khomeini can be curbed and so allow the Arab nation to absorb the science, technology and the industrial know-how of the accident.

Iraq leaders fear the possible spread of Khomeini fundamentalism in the Arab world because this, they argue, could develop into serious opposition to modernization and industrialization during the period of transition, which will be accompanied by various dislocations in the nations life.

Iraq leaders agree that Khomeini acted nobly in toppling the Shah but disagree with Khomeini when he asserts that modern industry is a satanic force battling Islam.

There is also a strong suspicion in Iraq that Iran's Bani Sadr could easily become openly pro American, after the release of the hostages, in which case it is feared that the United States, using Iran as a base would attempt to disrupt Iraq's long range economic and politically non-aligned strategy.

Immediately then the

strategic aims of Iraq are to insure her free and uninterrupted access to the Persian Gulf and the Straits of Hormuz, establish herself in the eyes of the Arab world as its most powerful military member and to render Iran ineffective in the affairs of the Arab world.

The multiple and extremely complicated ramifications of this strategy involving the fate of the PLO, Israel, the attitudes of Libya and Egypt, Syria and Jordan will all depend on the outcome of the war, with the expected victor being Iraq, and the success with which Iraq can move ahead with its grand strategy of creating in the Arab homeland and industrial world suited to the needs of the Arab world's 150 million citizens living and building in a truly non-aligned and neutral environment.

Award

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retired, Fitzhugh was a Pepsi-Cola Co. vice president, and for many years a pioneering black in big business marketing. He was a Harvard Business School MBA graduate (1933), and following a number of moves up the corporate ladder, taught marketing at Washington's Howard University. He is often called the "Dean" of black business.

"Don't leave the corporation, no matter what the circumstances until you've acquired the skills and knowledge that will be marketable outside," Corrin told the MBA audience.

"In the event the time comes to move, there are numerous opportunities," he said. He cited minority businesses and institutions as prime examples of where the talents of black professionals can "make the big difference by doubling, tripling, even quadrupling their worth in just a few years."

He noted, "Today is the best time in history for the future of black MBA's — and thank God for the National Black MBA Association."

The Association was organized in 1970, to provide a forum where black business professionals can exchange ideas and thoughts of common interests.

VEP

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Thurmond's predecessor, Senator Edward Kennedy."

Under the Voting Rights Act, local governments are required to submit notice of any changes in voting rights laws, practices and procedures to the Voting Section of the U.S. Department of Justice. The Justice Department can then raise objections if the change would have a discriminatory effect on minority voting rights. VEP data indicate that 385 objections have been made by the Justice Department in eight southern states since the law's passage. In addition, a substantial number of state and local governments have been taken to court as a result of making changes.

The Voter Education Project, Inc. is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, tax-exempt organization which has worked since 1962 in the 11 southern states to promote minority political participation.

BY THE WAY...

By Joe Black



Those of you who, through the years, have followed my "By The Way" commentaries have probably experienced times when you thought that I sounded like a broken record.

My remarks today will echo some previous thoughts that I have expounded on each year since 1974. Some of my words have provoked some of you into writing me angry letters and describing me as a "tool for the white man because I am 'ripping off' the brother rather than dealing with the sociological ramifications of Black-on-Black crime." That is your prerogative, but I still choose to view Black-on-Black crime from the "bottom line" — that it is having a very negative effect upon the socioeconomic status of Black communities.

The sweat, tears, and lives that were lost during the social revolution of the 50's and 60's were not sacrificed so that we can kill one another or to keep the Black side of town in a depressed financial state. It is time for Black Americans to stand up and loudly denounce those criminals who are destroying our neighborhoods; because in too many towns, Black women and children are afraid to walk the streets once the sun goes down. Senior citizens are victimized because the attackers take advantage of their weakened bodies and slow reactions. Our community is deprived of convenience and economic growth because businesses hesitate to locate in inner-city because of the higher insurance rates and the risk of robbery or extortion.

And when we do speak out, we must make the courts understand that we want the same penalties applied for crimes against Blacks as the court applies when a white citizen is the victim; no longer will we tolerate a lecture and a \$50 fine when a Black man rapes a Black woman.

Joe Black
Vice President
The Greyhound Corporation

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