



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, PACIFIC  
FORT SHAFTER, HAWAII 96858-5100

APAG-PA

27 September 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR

Commander, US Army, Hawaii, Schofield Barracks, HI 96857-6000  
Commander, US Army Alaska, 600 Richardson Drive, Fort Richardson, AK  
99505-6000  
Commander, US Army Japan/9th Theater Support Command, APO AP 96343-5005  
Commander, 9th Regional Readiness Command, 1557 Pass Street, Fort Shafter  
Flats, Honolulu, HI 96819-2135  
Commander, 196th Infantry Brigade, Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5300

SUBJECT: Army Voting Assistance Program within USARPAC

1. The 2004 General Election is rapidly approaching and the next 30 to 45 days are crucial. I realize these are extremely busy times, but we must remember that voting is one of the freedoms our Soldiers fought so hard to defend. Elected officials have a direct impact on Soldier quality of service.
2. It is our duty as leaders to ensure Soldiers are given every opportunity to exercise their right to vote. I encourage you to use the community resources accessed by your Soldiers on a daily basis (dining facilities, unit sporting events, post exchanges and commissaries, libraries, and physical fitness centers) as venues for Voting Assistance Officers to educate Soldiers on this very important process. Further, I ask that you ensure your deployed Soldiers are aware of the process for using the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot, should they not receive their official absentee ballot within 30 days of the election. Additionally, I encourage you to make Internet access available to all Soldiers to enable them to conduct research and vote intelligently. An excellent source of information is our website at (<http://www.usarpac.army.mil/vap/VAP%20Main.htm>), which contains detailed information concerning the absentee voting process.
3. The right to vote is one of our most cherished freedoms. As defenders of freedom and democracy, voting is our opportunity to express those very rights. We must continue to do all we can to educate our Soldiers concerning the absentee voting process and to encourage them to participate in it.
4. My point of contact is Ms. Betty Stevenson at DSN 315-438-8678/commercial (808) 438-8678. E-mail address is [Betty.Stevenson@shafter.army.mil](mailto:Betty.Stevenson@shafter.army.mil).

//Original Signed//

JOHN M. BROWN III  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Commanding