DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY TRANSPORTATION CENTER
210 DILLON CIRCLE
FORT EUSTIS, VIRGINIA 23604-5000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

ATZF-CSM

1 July 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR Master Sergeant Promotion Board Members (Transportation)

SUBJECT: CMF 88 Master Sergeant Promotion Board, 5 August 2008

1. The Transportation Corps provides the enclosed information to help you understand the Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) that comprise CMF 88. Our Corps consists of five diverse specialties that engulf the broad spectrum of transportation: vessel operations and maintenance, motor transport operations, cargo handling operations and transportation management.

2. The career path of the noncommissioned officer (NCO) should not be a factor in selecting senior NCOs for Master Sergeant (MSG). Once a Transporter achieves the rank of MSG, we assign the Soldier to any of the five Transportation specialties throughout the Corps and cross-level them in duties and missions.

3. We currently have Noncommissioned Officers (NCO) serving as Logistics NCO Trainers for the Military Transition Teams (MiTT) and First Sergeant, Platoon Sergeant and Squad Leaders for Warrior Transition Units. These are the Army's top priority assignments and NCOs are pulled from other Key Leader positions to fill them. Logistic NCO Trainers are charged with teaching, coaching, and mentoring Host Nation Security Forces while simultaneously conducting combat operations while embedded in Iraq and AFGHAN Forces. First Sergeant, Platoon Sergeant and Squad Leaders serving in Warrior Transition Units (WTU) are leading Multi-component units. These units consist of medical hold companies and detachments merged with Medical Retention Processing Units (MRPUS). They are created to provide better care for Warrior in Transition and chronically ill Soldiers from all three components, Active, National Guard, and Reserve. The NCOs primary mission is to assist with the care and transition of these Soldiers and their families.

4. The Transportation Corps also selects highly-skilled and experienced NCOs into top priority assignments such as the White House Transportation Agency, Joint Duty positions, AC/RC, Proponent/Branch Career Advisor, Equal Opportunity Advisor, Inspector General, Instructor/Writer, Recruiter and Drill Sergeant. Due to the nature of these top priority assignments and periods committed to these positions, a number of NCOs will have limited opportunity to serve in other key leadership positions or deploy. Do not penalize Soldiers filling these critical roles; provide them the same degree of consideration based on their job performance.

5. When selecting noncommissioned officers qualified to serve as MSG, consider the NCO's challenging leadership and operational positions as well as the highest level of NCOES completed over the NCO's career. Most of these Soldiers will become First Sergeants. It is imperative that you select physically fit NCOs that have both leadership and staff operations experience. Our demanding conditions and high OPTEMPO require our MSGs to have experience in troop leading and operations to be effective in support of the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT).

6. Military and civilian education is important to an NCO; however, Transportation units are frequently deployed in support of the GWOT and many NCOs will not have the opportunity to further their civilian or military education. Do not penalize deployed NCOs who are in this situation. Nevertheless, NCOs who have completed a college degree have demonstrated potential for promotion in this area.

7. "In conclusion, your task is to select the best-qualified NCOs for promotion to Master Sergeant. I realize this is a challenging task, because there are many NCOs who would be excellent Master Sergeants if the allocations were available. It is a tedious and enlightening experience. We at the Transportation Center and School stand ready to assist you. Please feel free to contact our personnel proponent staff or myself at (757) 878-4173/3672 or DSN 826-4173/3672.

8. "Nothing Happens Until Something Moves."

Encls

C.C. Jenkins, Jr.
Command Sergeant Major, USA
Regimental Command Sergeant Major