

Veterans Corner  
November 2007  
By: Robert G. Mitchell

Cold War Service

If you served honorably on active duty, the Guard, Reserve, or as a DOD federal employee from Sept 2, 1945 to Dec 26, 1991, you are authorized the Cold War Recognition Certificate. Here's how to obtain your copy free:

**Here's How:**

1. You will need proof of your service, such as a DD Form 214 (Record of Military Service).
2. Prepare, date, and sign a letter, requesting the award of the Cold War Recognition Certificate.
3. Send the letter and a copy of your service proof to: CDR, PERSCOM, Cold War Recognition, Hoffman II, ATTN: TAPC-CWRS, 3N45, 200 Stovall St., Alexandria, VA 22332-0473
4. You may also FAX the letter and proof to: 1-800-723-9262.

VA Increases the GI Bill Rates: \$39,636

The Department of Veterans Affairs has announced that the GI Bill will soon be worth \$39,363 – a total increase of nearly \$1000 over last year's rate. This total is based on the new monthly full-time student payment rate of \$1,101 multiplied by the 36-month limit.

Merchant Mariner Bonus:

July 18, 2007 Governor Spitzer signed into law, authorizing a one time bonus payment of \$250 to Merchant Marines who were not otherwise eligible for the WWII bonus.

This bonus is for the veteran or the unremarried spouse. No monies shall be paid before April 1, 2008 (the money was budgeted for next fiscal year). The Division is in the process of creating a bonus bureau and updating the veteran application as well as the unremarried spouse application. Residency requirement is the veteran must have lived in New York State 6 months prior to enlistment.

The Division is currently accepting names and addresses of those requesting an application and once approved the applications will be mailed. For more information contact George Basher at the New York State Division of Veterans Affairs at 518-474-6784.

### Vietnam memorial's 25<sup>th</sup>

In honor of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., a six-day event will take place. On November 6 a Music and Poetry Tribute occurs. From November 7-10, over 65 hours, the Reading of the named forms the core of the remembrance. Then on November 11, 2007 Colin Powell will deliver the keynote Veterans Day address. For more information visit [www.vvmf.org](http://www.vvmf.org).

### Honoring our American hero's

On November 15, 2007 at 1pm at the New York State Military Museum on Lake Avenue in Saratoga Springs the National Society of American Revolution will be honoring Purple Heart recipients from Saratoga County. If you are a Purple Heart recipient or know one and would like to be honored, contact Susan Szewczyk at 518-587-9562 or by mail 107 Gilbert Rd. Saratoga Springs.

### Coming Events:

Honor our Deceased Veterans program on November 20, 2007 honoring Donald Hoyt, Danny Hoyt, and Roy Hoyt from the Town of Halfmoon. The public is invited to attend.