

REPORT

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council
From the City Manager

7 B1

August 9, 2004

Subject

Consideration of Resolution to Adopt Headquarters Company (HHC) 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) as a part of the Adopt-A-Unit Program of "America Supporting Americans" ("ASA")

Recommendation

Adopt resolution to adopt Headquarters Company (HHC) 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) as a part of the Adopt-A-unit Program of "America Supporting Americans" ("ASA")

Background

Major Shawn Phillips served as this year's Redwood City 4th of July Parade Grand Marshall and was joined by the City of Burlingame's adopted unit from Ft. Campbell, Kentucky.

At the City Council meeting of July 12, 2004, under Matters of Council Interest, Mayor Ira introduced this topic and Council consensus was to bring back information and a resolution for consideration. ASA acts as liaison between U.S. military units and American communities desiring to provide moral support to servicemen and women stationed at home or deployed.

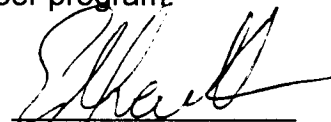
Should Council support this concept, the ASA recommends the City appoint a citizens liaison/committee leader to enlist community "morale support". The leader would recruit committee members to seek community support from schools, civic groups, businesses and local media. The ASA has provided various ideas such as a communication station for messages of support, letter writing from schools, and sending packages of interesting facts and news about the adopted community. The liaison committee would provide to ASA periodic reports of the community's activities and share ideas with other cities related to the program.

Fiscal Impact

No fiscal impact is anticipated as this is a community based volunteer program.



Patricia Howe
City Clerk



Ed Everett
City Manager

Attachments

Letter from ASA National Executive Director
Concept of Support and outline of Support Program
Proposed resolution

7 B2

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY ADOPTING THE HEADQUARTERS COMPANY (HHC) 1ST BATTALION, 327TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 1ST BRIGADE, 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION (AIR ASSAULT) AS PART OF THE ORGANIZATION "AMERICA SUPPORTING AMERICANS" ("ASA")

WHEREAS, the "America Supporting Americans" program was created on March 4, 1998 to provide a mechanism whereby all branches of the United States Armed Services would be "adopted" by an American city; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the adoption program is to bond American communities with the military men and women who bravely serve their country in a show of moral support with no political ties; and

WHEREAS, there are currently cities in 22 states that have adopted more than 100 active units of all branches of services; and

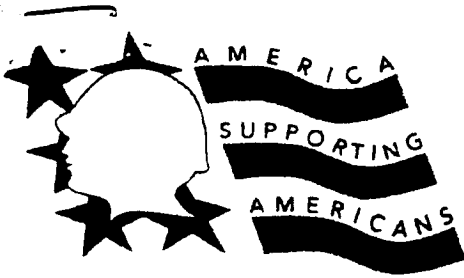
WHEREAS, it is appropriate and fitting that the City of Redwood City show its support of the men and women who serve in the military by adopting the Headquarters Company (HHC) 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY that the City Council of the City of Redwood City does hereby adopt and offer its on-going respect and support for the Headquarters Company (HHC) 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council designates Tiffany Teele as the official liaison for the City of Redwood City in the efforts to support the Headquarters Company (HHC) 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). The City of Redwood City hereby encourages all City employees, City businesses, service clubs and private citizens to become involved in this effort to support our men and women in the armed services.

* * *

7B3



Linda Patterson
National Executive Director
America Supporting Americans
P.O. Box 574, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

Phone: 310.459.5625 . FAX: 310.454.1408 . Email: artavia101@earthlink.net . <http://ASA.TheMilitary.net>

Redwood City Mayor & City Council
City Hall
1017 Middlefield Road
Redwood City, CA 94063

On behalf of Headquarters
Company (HHC) 1st Battalion,
327th Infantry Regiment, 1st
Brigade, 101st Airborne Division
(Air Assault)

Dear Mayor Ira & members of City Council of Redwood City, California:

It gives us great pleasure to introduce this "outstanding" unit of approximately 200 soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division and designate them as Redwood City's adopted unit.

As you know your city recognized a contingent of this elite Division who proudly led Redwood City's 4th of July Parade. The adopted sons of Burlingame, another proud City who recently passed a Resolution adopting a sister unit of HHC through ASA national program and we were happy to learn took first place award. Parade Grand Marshall MAJOR Shawn Phillips also honored the Peninsula Celebration representing this elite Division also known as the famed Screaming Eagles.

As you know, ASA acts as liaison between U.S. military units and American communities desiring to provide morale support to our servicemen and women stationed at home or deployed. This unit has indeed a proud history, and served a major role in Iraq and although they are presently home based at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky on a moment's notice can and will be deployed again.

Just to recap ASA suggest the City government set up or appoint a citizens committee/liason to enlist community "morale support", i.e., letter-writing from schools, etc. With this ASA has enclosed an outline of suggestions and ideas which we make available to help and assist the designed community's point of contact (liaison leader and volunteer citizens committee who will be enlisting community involvement and activities to show their support. We have found an open line of communication and good leadership benefits on ends, the communities and units. Our global website reaches from city to city across the nation with many ideas and community programs providing endless resources of important supportive information for ASA adopted units.

7B4

We are very proud to inform your Council that among our 22 States participating in ASA's adopt a unit program, one of your neighboring Cities on the Peninsula was the first to adopt a unit under the leadership of ASA. San Mateo has more than 36 years with it's first adopted unit dating back to March of 1968 and is quite proud of that history and as you all know, another Peninsula neighbor joined ASA and is leading with an incredible support program for their unit, in Burlingame, California.

We were so thrilled to hear that Redwood City would join ASA, that when we called the Company Commander to tell him and his soldiers that Redwood City would be their "adopted home away from home"... the Captain said he was "honored" and could not wait to hear the official news from their adopted city, Redwood City.

It was a pleasure for this Director to meet with your Mayor Ira and Vice Mayor Pierce during Redwood City's celebration of the birth of our nation, and we cannot think of a better way to set the example of what that birth of a free nation means than to adopt a unit which stands to defend and carry out the Constitution of this great nation of ours.

Sincerely,



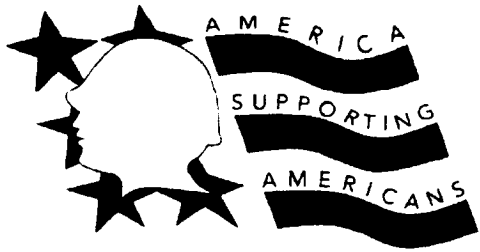
Linda Patterson, National Executive Director
AMERICA SUPPORTING AMERICANS (ASA)
1266 Calle de Sevilla
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

Personal e-mail for cities & units artavia101@earthlink.net
www.ASA.TheMilitary.net

cc: ASA Board of Directors
CPT Eric Anderson, HHQ Company Commander
MAJ Shawn Phillips, 1st Brigade Commander
Ginger Mozzetti, Chief Internet Director
Tiffany Teele, ASA Parade Event Coordinator

14 July, 2004

encls: Sample City Resolution
Example of Letter to be sent to Commanding Officer
Outline of support program
ASA Brochure "A call to Action"
Post paper article during Week of the Eagles, history description of ASA



7 B5

Concept of Support

Phase I (For newly participating Cities and Military Units)

The City's Liaison Committee coordinates with the POC for provision of the best type of morale support to the unit.

In this case, support to military units deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan will be detailed out. The Liaison Committee elicits the support of community schools or civic organizations to have a donation drive for items to support the Civil Affairs efforts of our military personnel. Although each effort will be unique to that specific community, all projects will follow this general pattern:

City Council passes resolution to adopt the military unit and provide morale support to that unit.

Phase II

The City establishes a Liaison Committee to coordinate all morale support projects. Military unit commander acknowledges the adoption and opens a dialogue with the city Military unit commander who provides an Action Officer (Chaplain, 1stSgt, SgtMaj) to be the unit's point of contact.

Liaison Committee initiates project:

- ▶ School kids, civic organization, or other affinity group conducts a donation drive
- ▶ Pack all materials in plain brown boxes that weigh less than 30lbs each
 - ▶ Prohibited items include: combustibles, seeds, fruits, plants, religious/political/sexual material
- ▶ Needed items for Iraqi schools include: pencils, pens, chalk, spiral notebooks, backpacks, erasers, rulers, safety scissors, colored pencils, construction paper, glue sticks...
essentially, a basic issue for a child going to school! Also, items such as soccer balls and basic clothing items for orphanages are needed.
- ▶ Morale items for the troops include: magazines, letters of support, calling cards, newspapers, photos, etc...
- ▶ Photos are taken of the event, and names of key leaders are sent to ASA
- ▶ Liaison Committee coordinates with the unit POC for pick up of packages; normally done at the school
- ▶ Commercial carriers pick up the packages and delivers them to Iraq; normally Baghdad; DOD will pay to ship
- ▶ The unit POC will coordinate the pick up and delivery of the packages to the unit
- ▶ The unit will disseminate the morale support to its troops and the school supplies to the village(s) that support its Civil Affairs efforts. Photos to be taken and sent ASA, with names of key leaders.
- ▶ At the completion of the project ASA will make a press release for National dissemination.

Phase III

The City Liaison Committee and the unit POC maintain open dialogues to continue coordinating morale support to the unit.

For more information, contact:

Linda Patterson, Executive Director
America Supporting Americans (ASA)
(310) 459-56250 <http://ASA.TheMilitary.net>

7 B6

PERIODICLY UPDATE ASA WITH COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Outline Program for Jim Tate

Support Committee for VFA-113 (Strike Fighter Squadron)

America Supporting Americans Adopt-a-unit/ship/squadron Program suggest the following:

***Recruit at least 5 dedicated individuals to take on the following projects:**

1. **List of Schools, public and private, contact head of Student Activities**
 - a) **Teachers adopt project for students, ask kids what they want to do**
 - b) **Letter-writing, art work, talk about their community to troops**
 - c) **Tell about school sports, games won, may want to adopt unit name for their own teams.**
 - d) **Students can develop posters of unit and distribute in community for special events to support units.**

2. **Contact Community Service Clubs (Sources found in Chamber Directory)**
 - a) **Kiwanis**
 - b) **Lion Clubs**
 - c) **Veteran Organizations, i.e., VFW, American Legion, DAV**
 - d) **Senior Citizen groups**
 - e) **Women's Clubs, Garden Groups if any.**
 - f) **Boy Scouts and Girl Scout Troops (Can earn merit badges)**
 - g) **Churches**

3. **Stay in touch with local news media, local T.V. & radio Stations all have a Community Interest**
 - a) **Reward and recognize students, community leaders and businesses who donate time, money or any kind of support. Give periodic press releases, community papers need local "good news" to report. This is and excellent means of awareness and encourages more individual group support.**
 - b) **If someone on your committee is a good writer send out periodic Newsletters to unit regarding pictures and activities of adopted city.**
 - c) **Hold "Town meetings" for brainstorming and holding community Interest.**
 - d) **Any letters from unit forward on to local paper in an "Open Letter" Column in community paper or the paper may want to feature a story.**