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HOMECOMING CONVOCATION

AND

RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS

HALL OF FAME CEREMONY

THURSDAY, 4 OCTOBER, 2001
3:30 P.M.

FERRELL HALL CAMPUS PARADE GROUND

Inclement Weather Plan:
P.A. Williams Auditorium
Harrison H. Ferrell Building

Historical Sketch of West Virginia State College ROTC

The second Morrill Act of 1890 made training in agriculture and mechanical arts available to African-American citizens. Section four of the Morrill Act required military training as part of the curriculum. West Virginia responded on March 17, 1891 by enacting legislation to create a special land-grant institution for Blacks. Federal funds provided \$3,000 for faculty salaries, and the West Virginia Legislature appropriated \$10,000 to purchase a farm and build a school building upon it. The institution was founded as the West Virginia Colored Institute.

Although not specifically included in the West Virginia Legislative Act, military training was conducted during the school's first year. The ROTC Department opened shortly after the establishment of a military corps in 1899. In 1915 West Virginia Colored Institute was renamed the West Virginia Collegiate Institute. It assumed its present name in 1929. Military training continued at the college from 1899 until present with the exception of temporary suspensions from 1907-1916 and 1920-1942.

From its beginnings until 1915, the institution offered the equivalent of a high school education with a curriculum devoted primarily to agriculture, trades, and teacher education. In 1915, the school was given the authority to award college degrees requiring instruction in mathematics, chemistry, French, and English. The first college degrees were awarded in 1919.

Much of the credit for establishing the present Senior ROTC program goes to Mr. Daniel P. Lincoln and Professor Daniel L. Ferguson. Their success in conducting voluntary military training early in World War II kept alive the War Department's recognition of the college's desire to continue the ROTC program.

In 1942, LTC Payton Winlock established a Senior ROTC unit to provide instruction in Field Artillery. Artillery was taught until 1956 when the department was designated a General Military Science Program. Graduates could now be commissioned into any of the Army's eighteen branches of service.

With the 1954 Supreme Court decision, *Brown vs. the Board of Education*, West Virginia State College was propelled from a small Black college to a racially integrated one. Program offerings expanded and new ones have developed as the College kept pace with the demands of students and the needs of the larger community. In 1970, the Military Science Department acquired elective status and ceased to be a mandatory program for all male students.

2001 Fall Program

Major John M. Horn, Presiding
Professor of Military Science and Commander, WVSC ROTC
Yellow Jacket Battalion

PRELUDE: "Bill Bailey" Arr. by Zane VanAuken

The West Virginia State College Symphonic Band
Julie Gendrich, Director

ADJUTANT CALL William F. Laney, Jr.
Cadet Captain

ARRIVAL OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY

HONORS ROTC Rifle Team

NATIONAL ANTHEM *Francis Scott Key*
The West Virginia State College Symphonic Band

INVOCATION Mr. Don W. Gresby
Coordinator Judicial Affairs/Special Programs

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS Major John M. Horn
Professor of Military Science and Commander
WVSC ROTC Battalion

PRESENTATION OF INDUCTEES AND RESPONDENTS

Leander J. Shaw, Jr., Justice, Class of '52
Presented by Cadet Colonel Miles C. Cary II, Former Brigade Commander

Osborne E. Reaves, Lieutenant Colonel (Retired), Class of '50
Presented by Cadet James N. Ojeda, Battalion Logistics Officer

Len O. Witcher, Lieutenant Colonel (Retired), Class of '52
Presented by Cadet Regina D. Davis

Robert H. Meggison (Retired), Class of '53
Presented by Cadet Amy L. Terrell, Battalion Public Affairs Officer

MUSICAL SELECTION: "America the Beautiful" *Samuel Ward*
Arr. by Ralph Ford
The WVSC Symphonic Band

RECOGNITION OF HONORED GUESTS Major John M. Horn

CLOSING REMARKS Hazo W. Carter, Jr.
Ninth President, West Virginia State College

ALMA MATER *Spencer-Wade*

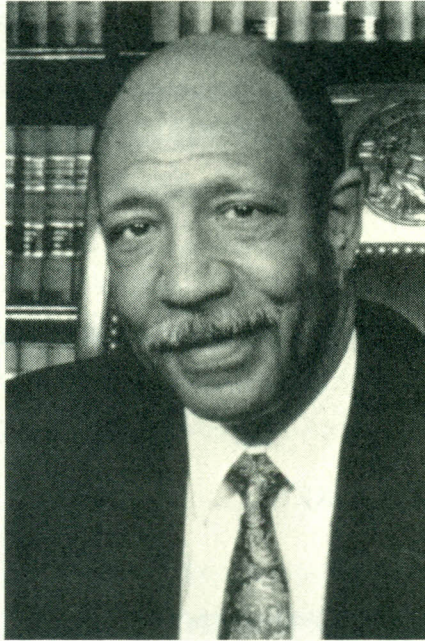
PASS AND REVIEW ROTC Cadet Corps
Cadet LTC Jason A. Scott, Cadet Battalion Commander

POSTLUDE: "Alexander's Ragtime Band" Irving Berlin
Arr. by Bill Moffit

West Virginia State College Symphonic Band

ARMY SONG

Leander J. Shaw, Jr.
Justice
Florida Supreme Court



Leander J. Shaw, Jr., born in Salem, Virginia, September 6, 1930, received his bachelor's degree in 1952 from West Virginia State College and was commissioned a 2LT in the Artillery Corps. After serving in the Korean conflict as an Artillery officer and obtaining the rank of 1LT, he earned his juris doctor degree in 1957 from Howard University, Washington, D.C. He holds honorary doctor of laws degrees from West Virginia State College, 1986; Nova University, 1991; and Washington and Lee University, 1991. He was awarded an honorary doctor of public affairs degree from Florida International University in 1990.

Justice Shaw came to Tallahassee in 1957 as Assistant Professor of Law at Florida A & M University and was admitted to The Florida Bar in 1960. He practiced law in Jacksonville, was assistant public defender, assistant state attorney, advisor to the Grand Jury, and head of the Capital Crimes Division. After serving as Commissioner on the Industrial Relations Commission and Judge of the First District Court of Appeal, Governor Bob Graham appointed him in 1983 to the Supreme Court (Chief Justice 1990-1992).

Justice Shaw has chaired numerous national commissions, state task forces, and Court committees. Some of these include the National Conference of Chief Justices, serving as second vice-president, and the Judicial Fellows Commission, having been appointed by the Chief Justice of the United States. He presently is advisor to the Supreme Court's Committee on Fairness, is liaison to The Florida Bar's Committees on Criminal Procedure Rules, Standard Jury Instructions--Criminal, and Rules of Judicial Administration, and serves on the Florida State University College of Law Board of Visitors.

Justice Shaw also is active in community, civic, and church activities.

LTC (Retired) Osborne Eugene Reaves



Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Osborne E. Reaves was born to the late Eugene S.J. Reaves and Ethel Reaves Wilson on April 25, 1929. He was reared by the late Annie and Thomas Holcomb in South Orange, New Jersey. LTC Reaves attended the public school system in South Orange and Maplewood, New Jersey where he graduated from Colombia High School in June 1946. He graduated from West Virginia State College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in Field Artillery in May 1950.

LTC Reaves entered military service at Fort Dix, New Jersey in October 1950 and served in the United States Army until his retirement on December 1, 1970. His service included three Korean tours, one of which was during the conflict; one in Germany; and numerous assignments to posts and communities within the United States, including one as an ROTC instructor at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Florida in 1953. He held command and staff position in Field and Air Defense Artillery with the 105 Howitzer, Nike Ajax, Nike Hercules and Hawk weapons systems at levels from Unit to Division/Region Headquarters. LTC Reaves graduated from required branch schools at Fort Bliss, Texas and Fort Sill, Oklahoma and completed the Information Officers' Basic Course at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana and Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. LTC Reaves was recognized with awards of the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal.

Post retirement jobs were: Interim Executive Director, Hudson Valley Opportunities Industrialization Center; Administrative Assistant to the Director of the Psychiatric Epidemiology Research Unit in Poughkeepsie, New York; and Youth Opportunity Supervisor and Senior Minority Group Personnel Specialist with the Office of Mental Health at Hudson River Psychiatric Center. While on this job, he graduated from Cornell University's New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations specializing in Equal Employment Opportunity. He was a longtime volunteer with the United Way of Dutchess County. He retired from New York in 1986. LTC Reaves and his late wife, Jacqueline DuConge Reaves, have four children and eleven grandchildren. Two of his sons, Osborne M. and Stephen both graduated from West Virginia State College in 1975 and 1980, respectively and went on to retire from the US Army as Majors. His daughter, Karen, and son, Gregory are graduates of Howard University in Washington, D.C.

Since 1988, LTC Reaves has been a resident of Newport News, Virginia where he is a member of St. Jerome Catholic Church. He continues his volunteer work in an elementary school there. LTC Reaves holds life memberships in the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, West Virginia College Alumni Association, The Retired Officers' Association, The Reserve Officer' Association, and the Disabled American Veterans.

LTC (Retired) Len Obadiah Witcher



LTC (Ret.) Len O. Witcher was born in Vivian, West Virginia. He graduated from Kimball High School. In 1952, he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from West Virginia State College and was commissioned Field Artillery.

While at West Virginia State College, LTC Witcher was active in Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, he served as Dean of Pledges, and advertising manager for the college newspaper. LTC Witcher was recognized in his junior and senior years as a distinguished military student.

LTC Witcher attended the basic officer's course at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He then served with the 24th Infantry Division in Japan. In March 1953, he was transferred to Korea as an assistant executive officer, C Battery, 9th Field Artillery Battalion (155mm Howitzer), 3rd Infantry Division, participating in the final two campaigns of the Korean War. After the Korean War ended, he remained with the 9th Field Artillery Battalion as an assistant battalion supply officer. He was promoted to 1st Lieutenant in April 1954.

LTC Witcher ended his active reserve duties as a member of the DAPM Team with summer tours of reserve duty at active Army bases in Arizona, Kentucky, Missouri, and New Jersey. His decorations include the Korean Service, United Nations Service, and the National Defense Medals, with two campaign clasps. He received the United States Army Meritorious Service Medal in 1980 when he retired from the active U.S. Army Reserves.

LTC Witcher's civilian employment included five years with the Federal National Mortgage Association as an Auditor, seven years with the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Command as Supervisory Cost Accountant, and as an Accountant Auditor for eighteen years with Wayne County, Michigan, retiring in March 1991.

LTC Witcher is a Life Member of the Detroit NAACP, the WVSC Alumni Association, and the Reserve Officer's Association. He was active with the Detroit Chapter of the WVSC Alumni and served as treasurer for several years. He was active with the famed Tuskegee Airmen, Detroit Chapter, formed by many of the original members.

LTC Witcher is active at National City Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Washington, DC as a deacon. His favorite hobbies are golf, reading, traveling, and photography.

He is married to Ellen London Witcher. They have a daughter, Lucille Denise, and two sons, Lamont M. and Steven W.

LTC (Retired) Robert H. Meggison



Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Robert H. Meggison was born in Beckley, West Virginia and reared in Winding Gulf, West Virginia. He was the only child born to Robert and Evelyn Meggison (both deceased). He received his high school diploma from Byrd Prillerman High School. He not only excelled in academics, where he was class president his senior year; but he also was an outstanding athlete in several sports. LTC Meggison received his BA degree in Vocational Agriculture from West Virginia State College in 1953 and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Field Artillery.

During LTC Meggison's military career, he had the following assignments. He was assigned as Senior Advisor to the 54th Infantry Regiment, 1st AR Division in Vietnam. Returning to the United States, he was assigned to Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. He was promoted to the rank of LTC while assigned to Ft. Bliss, Texas where he served as Deputy Commander of the 2nd Training Group, 1st AIT Brigade. LTC Meggison served at Headquarters, U.S. Army Europe in Heidelberg, Germany and in Mainz, Germany as the Deputy Commander of the 1st Brigade, 8th Infantry Division. While in Europe, he completed his Master's degree in Psychological Counseling. His final assignment was at Fort Stewart, Georgia where he served as the Installation Commander.

LTC Meggison received numerous awards of honor and distinction during his illustrious military career which includes the following: Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Legion of Merit Award, Army Commendation Air Medal (1OLC), Air Medal (1OLC), Armed Forces Honor Medal, Gallantry Cross with Gold Star, Senior Parachute Badge, and Combat Infantryman Badge.

In 1975, LTC Meggison retired from the military and relocated to Atlanta, Georgia with his family, where they currently reside. He entered the private sector working in management positions for the Atlanta Hilton, Church's Chicken, and the City of Atlanta's Department of Aviation. He retired from the City of Atlanta in June, 1997.

LTC Meggison is married to Stella (Boyden) Meggison, his wife of 47 years and soul mate throughout his distinguished military career. They are the proud parents of two adult children: Robin (Meggison) Pierce who resides in Atlanta and Richard who resides in Oakland, California. They are also the proud grandparents of two girls, Ashley 15 and Alyson 9. LTC Meggison is a dedicated member of the Bethel United Methodist Church where he is actively involved and serves on various committees.

PROFESSORS OF MILITARY SCIENCE

1942-1944	Lieutenant Colonel Payton Winlock
1944-1945	Lieutenant Colonel Benote H. Lee
1945-1946	Captain William J. Gray
1946-1948	Lieutenant Colonel Leon Lavoie
1948-1951	Lieutenant Colonel Charles H. Wesner
1951-1954	Lieutenant Colonel Orion Page
1954-1956	Major Robbin Washington
1956-1958	Lieutenant Colonel John Woodruff
1958-1959	Lieutenant Colonel Howard Bartholomew
1959-1963	Lieutenant Colonel Howard Hinkson
1963-1967	Lieutenant Colonel Joseph C. Hill
1967-1969	Lieutenant Colonel Marvin E. Billups
1969-1971	Lieutenant Colonel Louis J. Weil
1971-1974	Colonel Lawrence M. Sevdý
1974-1976	Lieutenant Colonel Stanley Goldsmith
1976-1979	Lieutenant Colonel Edward Robertson
1979-1983	Lieutenant Colonel Charles T. Ledbetter
1983-1984	Lieutenant Colonel Douglas W. Richmond
1984-1989	Lieutenant Colonel Quewanncoii C. Stephens
1989-1993	Lieutenant Colonel Willie C. Lucas
1993-1996	Lieutenant Colonel Herbert E. Lattimore
1996-1999	Lieutenant Colonel Raphael P. Deegan
1999-2000	Lieutenant Colonel Robert T. Kleppinger
2000-Present	Major (P) John M. Horn

ROTC HALL OF FAME

The West Virginia State College ROTC Hall of Fame was created to recognize the accomplishments of its graduates who have excelled in their chosen fields. Previous inductees include:

1980

Major General (Ret.) Edward Greer
Major General (Ret.) Charles C. Rogers*
Major General (Ret.) Harvey D. Williams
Brigadier General (Ret.) Dallas C. Brown

1981

Brigadier General (Ret.) Frank C. Bacon
Colonel (Ret.) George E. Peters, Jr.
Colonel (Ret.) Robert L. Peters
Dr. Vincent E. Reed

1982

Colonel (Ret.) Grover A. DuBose
Colonel (Ret.) James M. Garrison, Jr. M.D.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Nelson R. Bickley
Dr. William J.L. Wallace (H*)
Dr. Prince A. Williams (H*)

1983

Brigadier General (Ret.) Robert L. Stephens, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Preston A. Davis
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Haywood Martin

1984

Major General Joseph E. Turner USAR (Ret.)
Colonel (Ret.) Charles E. Stokes, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Richard V. White
Lieutenant Colonel Howard L. Wilson

1985

Brigadier General (Ret.) Walter F. Johnson, III
Colonel (Ret.) Thomas E. Carter, M.D.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Thomas D. Carter, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) James L. Hill

1986

Colonel (Ret.) Paul H. Easley, Sr.
Colonel (Ret.) Roscoe A. Swann, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) John E. Baker
Major (Ret.) James W. Hawkins, Jr.

1987

Colonel (Ret.) Vandy L. Miller
Colonel (Ret.) Herman H. Jones
Colonel (Ret.) James W. Vallandingham
Colonel (Ret.) James W. Reed

1988

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) C. Milton Kates
Colonel (Ret.) Alphonso W. Nabors
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Bernice McGhee
Colonel (Ret.) Edwin A. Wilkerson

1989

Major General (Ret.) Kenneth D. Gray
Colonel William P. Greene, Jr.
LTC (Ret.) Stephen S. Whisiker*
LTC (Ret.) John L. Whitehead*

1990

Brigadier General (Ret.) James W. Monroe
Brigadier General (Ret.) Jack Yeager
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Acie McGhee, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Ronald E. McLeod
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) George S. Roberts

1991

Colonel Ronald E. Townsend
Colonel (Ret.) Kenneth A. Ingram
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Henry R. Bellinger
Commissioner Earl E. Jones

1992

Colonel (Ret.) James Manning
Colonel (Ret.) John Mackey
Colonel Donald Townsend
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Dennis Neighbors
BG Roscoe Cartwright (H*)
LTC (Ret.) Samuel Kelly (H*)
Dr. John W. Davis (H*)
Mr. James Evans (H*)

1993

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Ronald H. Poole
LTC (Ret.) Rodney L. McCormick*
First LT Beny J. Primm, M.D.
Dr. Thomas D. Boston

1994

Colonel Frankie D. Hoskey
Brigadier General(P) Terry L. Tucker
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Lazelle Free, Sr.
Major (Ret.) George L. Rich, Jr.

*Deceased

ROTC HALL OF FAME

(Continued)

1995

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Keith Sovine
Captain John Willis Hill Gravely
First Lieutenant Herbert Henderson
First Lieutenant Edward Scott
Sidney Taylor Brown

1996

Lieutenant Colonel Lew G. Tyree
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Thomas E. Haggins
Captain A. Dayton Carpenter

1997

Brigadier (Ret.) General Earl M. Simms
Lieutenant Colonel Carolyn L. Maddox
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Clifford Hill
Captain Jerry L. Hatcher

1998

Brigadier General John E. Barnette
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Ferguson B. Meadows
LTC (Ret.) Franciso B. Newman

1999

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) John F. Hailey
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Herbert L. Lawrence
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Charles E. Wilson
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Frank E. Duncan
Lieutenant Colonel Timothy A. Boyles (Posthumous)*

2000

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Howard G. Hicks, Jr.
Colonel (Ret.) Cardell S. Hunter
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Frederick C. Franklin
Major (Ret.) Charles S. Corprew, Jr.

2001

Justice Leander J. Shaw, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Osborne E. Reaves
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Robert H. Meggison
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Len O. Witcher

*Deceased

ROTC HALL OF FAME HONORARY MEMBERS

The West Virginia State College ROTC Hall of Fame was created to recognize the accomplishments of its graduates who have excelled in their chosen fields. Honorary members are normally inducted once each decade. Honorary inductees include:

1982

Dr. William J.L. Wallace

Dr. Prince A. Williams*

1992

Brigadier General Roscoe Cartwright

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Samuel Kelly

Dr. John W. Davis*

Mr. James Evans

1995

Mrs. Sidney Taylor Brown

*Deceased

WEST VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE ROTC

14 DECORATED GENERAL OFFICERS

NAME	Year of Graduation
Major General (Ret.) Kenneth D. Gray	1966
Major General (Ret.) Edward Greer	1948
Major General (Ret.) James W. Monroe	1963
Major General (Ret.) Charles C. Rogers	1951
Major General (Ret.) Joseph E. Turner	1961
Major General (Ret.) Harvey D. Williams	1950
Brigadier General (Ret.) Frank C. Bacon	1951
Brigadier General (Ret.) John E. Barnette	1969
Brigadier General (Ret.) Dallas C. Brown	1951
Brigadier General (Ret.) Walter F. Johnson	1961
Brigadier General (Ret.) Earl M. Simms	1968
Brigadier General (Ret.) Robert L. Stephens	1962
Brigadier General (Ret.) Jack Yeager	1965
Brigadier General(P) Terry L. Tucker	1972