

Contact: Larry Soule
President, Southwest Association
of Buffalo Soldiers
Phone (520) 459-7653

Post Office Box 715
Phone (520) 459-7653

Southwest
Association of Buffalo
Soldiers

Press Release

Southwest Association of Buffalo Soldiers to
present award to General Barry McCaffrey

Organization recognizes general's service to the Army and US;
also honors father's service with all black division during W W II



General Barry McCaffrey to receive award
From SW Association of Buffalo Soldiers

Sierra Vista, AZ, August 19, 2008:

The Southwest Association of Buffalo Soldiers will present the "Spirit of the Buffalo Soldier" award to retired General Barry McCaffrey during the group's annual gala dinner on Saturday, September 27th, 2008.

The Spirit of the Buffalo Soldier award recognizes individuals who embody the ideals of the Buffalo Soldiers of the United States Army: courage and perseverance. (The term *Buffalo Soldiers* became a generic term for all African-American soldiers. It is now used for U.S. Army units that trace their direct

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lineage back to the 9th and 10th Cavalry, and the 24th and 25th Infantry regiments, units whose bravery earned them an honored place in U.S. military history.)

Larry Soule, President of the Southwest Association of Buffalo Soldiers, said that General McCaffrey's distinguished military career in service to the United States, as well as his public service at the highest levels of government, has earned him the recognition as a Buffalo Soldier. Peter Huisking who is assisting with the event noted that the service of General McCaffrey's father (the late Lieutenant General William J. McCaffrey) as the Assistant Chief of Staff, G3, and later, Chief of Staff, of the 92d Infantry Division (an all Black unit which trained at Fort Huachuca from 1942-1943) during World War II, embodies the legacy of service to country of the McCaffrey family, and is worthy of recognition.

The Southwest Association of Buffalo Soldiers works to preserve the history of the historic Buffalo Soldier units. They are working to re-open the Mountain View Colored Officers' Club (built in 1942) at Fort Huachuca as a research center on the military history of Black men and women. They also make historical presentations to active military units, educational institutions, business agencies, and civic organizations.

General McCaffrey, a graduate of the United States Military Academy, served in the United States Army for 32 years and retired as a four-star General. At retirement he was the most highly decorated serving general, having been awarded three Purple Heart medals for wounds received in his four combat tours - as well as two awards of the Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second highest award for valor. He also twice was awarded the Silver Star for valor. For five years after leaving the military, Barry McCaffrey served as the nation's Cabinet Officer in charge of U.S. Drug Policy.

For this period of public service, General McCaffrey received many honors including: the Department of Health and Human Service Lifetime Achievement Award for Extraordinary Achievements in the Field of Substance Abuse Prevention (2004), the United States Coast Guard Distinguished Public Service Award, the Norman E. Zinberg Award of the Harvard Medical School, the Federal Law Enforcement Foundation's National Service Award, and the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America Lifetime Achievement Award.

General McCaffrey is currently President of BR McCaffrey Associates LLC, a company that provides strategic, analytic, and advocacy consulting services to businesses, non-profits, governments, and international organizations. He periodically visits the war zones of Iraq and Afghanistan as an adjunct professor of the US Military Academy, and his reports of these visits are used at the highest levels of the Department of Defense. He returned from an assessment tour of Afghanistan last month.

General McCaffrey will be honored at the gala evening at the Thunder Mountain Activity Center on September 27th. Tickets for the event can be obtained from the Southwest Association of Buffalo Soldiers. Contact SGM/ret Harlan Bradford 520-458-6728.