



## AIRBORNE & SPECIAL OPERATIONS MUSEUM FOUNDATION

*...Experience the Legend*

February 25, 2004

Secretary of the Army  
101 Army Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20310-0101

Dear Mr. Secretary;

In accordance with the provisions of Army Regulations 1-100 and 870-20, the Airborne & Special Operations Museum Foundation Board of Directors is proud to offer the building that houses the U.S. Army Airborne & Special Operations Museum to the Department of the Army. The museum building was constructed with a mixture of private and public funds to preserve and exhibit important collections of historical artifacts pertaining to U.S. Army airborne and special operations history, 1940 to the present.

The museum is located at 100 Bragg Boulevard, Fayetteville, North Carolina. It is a world-class structure designed specifically for museum use at a cost of construction of \$22.5 million. Pursuant to the provisions of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Foundation and XVIII Airborne Corps, the building serves as the Airborne & Special Operations Museum and is a part of the U.S. Army Museum System. General Henry H. Shelton, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, formally opened the museum to the public on 16 August 2000. The 59,000 square foot building contains major exhibit, theater and artifact conservation space devoted to the preservation of Army History.

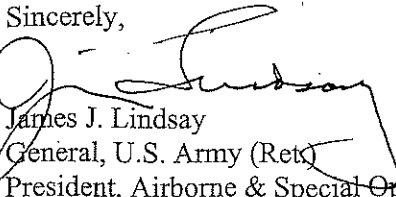
Over twenty thousand square feet of exhibit space tell the story of intrepid Army paratroopers, glider soldiers, and special operations forces from World War II to the present. Fort Bragg's unique role as the birthplace of five airborne divisions and as home of the nation's airborne and special operations units is part of the chronicle presented in extraordinary exhibits that include a World War II glider, C-47 transport and other one-of-kind artifacts.

Nearly 700,000 people have toured the museum since 2000. Tens of thousands of soldiers have attended professional development sessions at the museum, as well as promotion and re-enlistment ceremonies. Moreover, thousands of school children have learned about the unique role played by Fort Bragg in the national defense since 1940. Of special significance is the unique role that the museum plays in the community, where it serves as a major cultural attraction that serves not only the Army but also an extensive local, regional and national audience.

The new museum was created by a unique public-private partnership that includes Fort Bragg, the State of North Carolina, the City of Fayetteville and Cumberland County. That partnership continues to guide the museum's enormously important role as an educational institution.

As General Shelton said in his remarks about the museum, "Great nations need reminders, reminders of what made them great in the first place." We hope that you will accept our offer of this very visible reminder.

Sincerely,



James J. Lindsay  
General, U.S. Army (Ret)

President, Airborne & Special Operations Museum Board of Directors

P.O. Box 89 • Fayetteville, NC 28302-0089 ★ 100 Bragg Blvd. • Fayetteville, NC 28301 ★ (910) 483-3003 • FAX (910) 485-2024

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