



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY 63D REGIONAL READINESS COMMAND
4235 YORKTOWN AVENUE
LOS ALAMITOS, CALIFORNIA 90720-5002

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

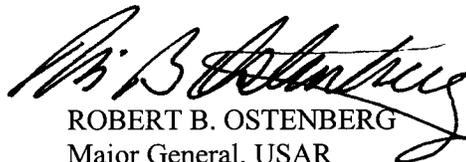
AFRC-CCA-PRH-EO (600-20)

29 January 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Black History Month 2004

1. The national observance of Black History Month is 1 – 29 February 2004. This month presents a special opportunity for us to learn, remember, and gain a greater appreciation for the contributions that African American/Blacks have made and continue to make in the 63rd RRC, the U.S. Army and our great nation.
2. The theme for this year's observance is "Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas." The 2004 theme focuses on the 50th anniversary of the 17 May 1954 Supreme Court decision that ended federally sanctioned racial segregation in the public schools by ruling unanimously that "separate educational facilities are inherently unequal." Viewed as the most significant case regarding segregation, this event marked the turning point in the desegregation of public schools and the beginning of equality among all races in the United States.
3. This year, I urge all leaders to highlight the active involvement and contributions made by African American/Black soldiers and civilians within your respective organization, local communities and across the 63rd RRC.
4. I invite everyone to join me in celebrating and learning about the indelible influence African Americans/Blacks have made in shaping our nation's history and future.


ROBERT B. OSTENBERG
Major General, USAR
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:
A, S1, S2

"WE ARE THE ARMY"