



News Release

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For Immediate Release

Retired Marine Corps General Joseph Hoar to Visit with Vets

On Saturday, January 31, 2004 from approximately 1:45 to 3 p.m. at the Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center General Joseph P. Hoar (USMC-Ret.) will visit with veterans. He will be visiting with patients on both the inpatient and nursing home care units of the hospital. His tour will start in the VA Gallery located on the 7th Street lobby and from there will likely move to ward 4D, then to 2K and 1K in the Nursing Home Care Unit.

General Hoar retired as the Commander in Chief of the United States Central Command at MacDill Air Force Base. In this capacity he was the Commander in Chief of the unified command that had the planning and operational responsibilities for 19 countries in the Middle East, South Asia and the Horn of Africa. During his tenure he assisted in enforcing the naval embargo in the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf, he enforced the no-fly zone in the south of Iraq and supported other humanitarian and peacekeeping operations.

Two of the patients the General will be meeting with include John Kopchak an Army Veteran that was wounded in Normandy after the D-Day invasion and Tom Edwards a World War II Army veteran.

The General is in town to help show his support for Governor Howard Dean's presidential campaign.

-VAMC-

The Carl T. Hayden Veterans Affairs Medical Center has been serving veterans in Maricopa County since 1951. We are a level one tertiary care facility that offers a variety of services to more than 50,000 veterans. We currently have 150 inpatient beds for medical and surgical patients, 110 beds for nursing home patients and 48 inpatient beds for mental health patients. We are actively involved in training new medical and surgical residents to become certified physicians and are committed to medical research to help find cures for illness and disease. We are honored to serve our veterans.