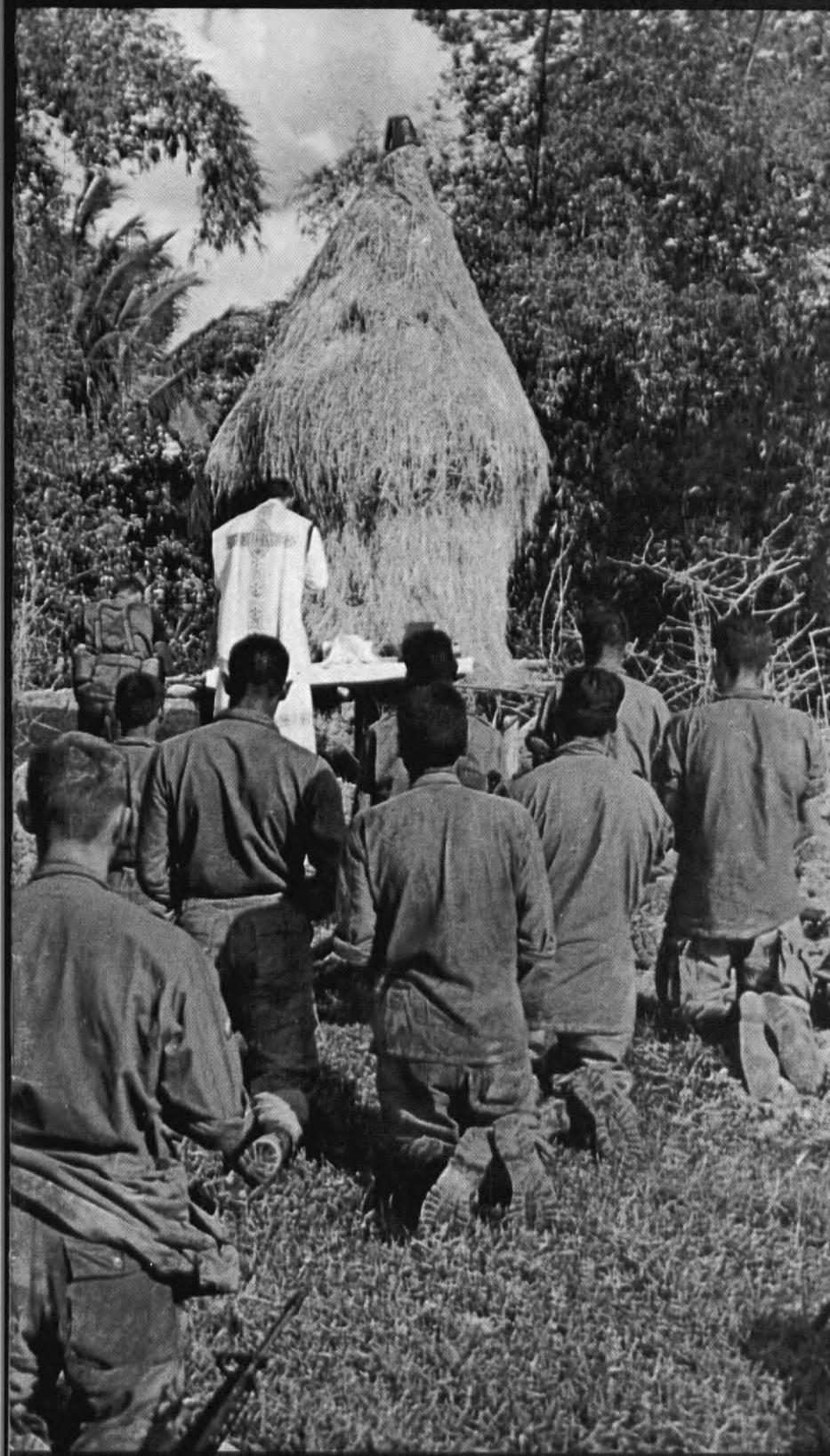


MAY • 1966

VFW

NEW GENERATION
OF HEROES

ARMED FORCES WEEK • MAY 21-28





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NEW GENERATION
OF HEROES
ARMED FORCES WEEK • MAY 21-28



THE COVER

• American fighting men in Vietnam symbolize those in the U. S. military services which a grateful nation will salute during Armed Forces Week, May 21-28.

Men of the 101st Airborne Brigade pause during a field operation for services conducted by Catholic Chaplain Bruno Massof of Cullman, Ala.

PFC. Ira Rolston of Vian, Okla., his rifle at ready, stalks through deep jungle during the fighting of Operation Masher.

Men of a First Infantry Division platoon hit the water in a rice paddy as their platoon leader, Second Lt. John L. Libs, surveys the jungle ahead for Viet Cong snipers. (Army photographs by PFC Robert C. Lafoon, Sp-5 Allan Holm and Staff Sgt. L. V. Boggess, Jr.)

V.F.W. Objectives

- To insure the national security through maximum military strength.
- To assist the rehabilitation of the nation's disabled and needy veterans.
- To assist the widows and orphans, and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans.
- To promote Americanism through education in patriotic and constructive service to the communities in which we live.

V.F.W. MAGAZINE

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V.F.W. MAGAZINE

This Box of Cigars Only 99c



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(I may discontinue my trial membership at any time, in which case I'll pay \$2.00 additional towards the cost of my bonus box of cigars.)

Memorial Day

Service and Sacrifice

May 30th, a day that was set apart as a memorial to the living and the dead who fought in the service of their country, is in essence a day dedicated to sacrifice and to self-renunciation.

On Memorial Day, if we have a true understanding of it, we must acknowledge that humanity reaches its final purpose less often over the heights of achievement than through the valley of suffering and self-sacrifice.

In the light of that understanding, our trophies shine with a new luster, our sorrow becomes a triumph, our dead are but a part of that unending army that has forever moved through pain and sacrifice to save a world by the only agency strong enough to rid it one day of wrong and evil.

Through what they gave, and through what those who still suffer the wounds and scars of war have given and continue to give, lies the way for all men and women out of pain into peace.—C. J. Machado, *National Aide-de-Camp, Memphis, Tenn.*

Liked Statement

The statement of your Commander-in-Chief, Andy Borg, on the Vietnam hearings conducted by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee appeared in the *Saigon Daily News*. The statement hit them good. Maybe they will wake up in due time. Keep up the good work.—Adam C. Brychel, *1st Log. Com. Engr. Sect., A.P.O. San Francisco.*

P-40 Pilots Remember

I was startled to read about the 57th Fighter Group in *The Best of Yank* (March, '66). When my outfit shot down those 74 planes over the Straits of Sicily, we didn't receive much publicity because Doolittle led his B-25s over Tokyo at the same time. I was in the Black Scorpion squadron.—William C. Bailey, *Life Member, Post 470, Erie, Pa.*

I was a member of the 65th Squadron, 57th Fighter Group. This is the first publication I have ever seen about that group. I wonder where all the men are now that

made it through the African Campaign. There were a lot of good men who didn't make it. I seem to have forgotten most of their names, as that was a long time ago. I thought we long since had been forgotten but somehow the spirit seems to linger on.—Donald Gustafson, *Seneca Falls, N.Y.*

Aid to Enemy

Commander-in-Chief Borg's statement asking prosecution for those making tape-recordings urging American fighting men to lay down their arms should receive the wholehearted support of every American regardless of his opinions on Vietnam.

It is possible to respect the doubts that many sincere people have about Vietnam, but how can such acts as these be considered anything less than treason?

This is no dissent from the administration's position on a controversial subject. This is aiding and assisting an enemy in arms against our own fighting men. The justly deserved punishment awarded to Ezra Pound, Axis Sally and Tokyo Rose should be the guidelines here.—Frank J. Burkinshaw, *Post 1524, Salem, Mass.*

Big Posts Challenged

I notice the V.F.W. has 44 Posts of 1,000 or more members as of January 31. I wonder how many of these "big guns" will send a drum corps, color guard or boys and girls drill team to the Big Show in August in New York.

Come on fellows, let's have more competition for these boys and girls. I'll bet it's the little Posts who have the teams and not your "Big 1,000 Posts."—Ed Ronczy, *Post 5414, Chicago, Ill.*

Favors Co-ed Medal

Our newspaper carried an article about a University of California co-ed being arrested after she kicked a uniformed American Nazi Party member who was carrying a "Hitler was right" sign. Police were quoted as saying, "After all, free speech is for everybody. And we figure we have to defend everybody."

I believe the co-ed should be taken before the Commanding General of the area and awarded a medal and an apology—and a new pair of shoes, because hers were bound to be soiled.—Clyde R. Hoggarty, *Past Commander, Post 3017, Kelso, Wash.*

WONDER SPRAYER!

Offered Again To The Public by Popular Demand

For Farm
and Home!

Last year we introduced for the first time the sensational new "Wonder Sprayer"—truly called the greatest invention for yard work since the power mower. We offered the "Wonder Sprayer" to the public twice. Each time we had a complete sell out with the result that many who tried to buy from us were disappointed. Our manufacturer has promised us as many as we can sell this year so we now have an ample stock on hand.

THIS IS TRULY AN ALL-PURPOSE SPRAYER!

It isn't often a new article takes the country by storm. But this one has. It is so efficient, yet so easy to operate. No heavy tank to hang on your shoulder. Just carry it in your hand and pull the trigger. It is fully automatic and needs no pumping up. Hose is very flexible and hose and nozzle handle easily. It weighs less than one pound when empty—only a little more than 8 pounds when full of spray. It's WONDERFUL FOR WOMEN and even a small child can operate it easily.



THE GREATEST INVENTION SINCE THE POWER MOWER

The new "WONDER SPRAYER" is absolutely perfect for any kind of normal home garden or lawn spraying or fertilizing; from a lone rose bush to a full size lawn, garden or twenty foot tree. The new "WONDER SPRAYER" makes an easy job of fertilizing where needed and spraying to kill crabgrass, chickweed, dandelions, pepper grass and other growing garden pests as well as insects which cause your lawn or garden to look unkept and ugly. The new "WONDER SPRAYER" can help you have the best kept lawn or garden in your neighborhood.

SPECIAL FEATURES

The new "Home Wonder" Spray is fully guaranteed in every respect. It will not rust or corrode. It has an adjustable nozzle. It can throw any kind of stream you desire—jet stream or fine mist. Small, compact—easy to store after using. If, after receiving and using it in ten days you are not completely satisfied, return it to us for full refund.



HURRY . . . ORDER NOW!

For This Spring and Summer Use

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The new Tucker Wonder Sprayer is available with or without the gallon container. The new-type sprayer hose is now made with a flanged friction attachment that will fit ANY gallon container. A plastic bleach container is ideal and most every home has these to throw away! The complete delivered price of the Wonder Sprayer WITH the gallon container and WITHOUT the container is shown below.

With Container ONLY	Without Container ONLY
\$2.98	\$2.49
Plus 37¢ for postage and handling. In all \$3.35	Plus 16¢ for postage and handling. In all \$2.65

HOW TO ORDER

Just list the item or items you want on a sheet of paper and mail to us with correct amount. All orders shipped promptly.

OUR GUARANTEE

You must be absolutely satisfied or your money back! No guarantee can be stronger! Any unsatisfactory merchandise may be returned within 10 days for a complete refund, for any reason, or no reason at all. This is the only way we like to deal with our customers.

FOR FAST SERVICE MAIL YOUR ORDER DIRECT TO

GREAT PLAINS SALES CO.
Westboro Station, E, Topeka, Kansas 66604

MARYLAND DISTRICTS PROMOTE VIETNAM BLOOD DONATIONS

• THANKS TO THE EFFORTS of Past Department Commander Joseph O. Hansen, first the Department of Maryland and then the Eastern States Conference adopted a resolution designating February "Vietnam Blood Bank Month."

To promote donations of blood, Maryland Districts 1, 2 and 17 jointly sponsored a "Mission Vietnam" rally at Post 9619, Morningside, which attracted hundreds of people.

Hansen, as chairman of the project, told the audience that his resolution was inspired by an editorial which began:

"Pentagon officials say they are being deluged with inquiries, suggestions and offers, all adding up to a timely question—'What can we do for the Americans fighting in Vietnam?' Their answer is: 'Blood donations.'"

A second purpose of the meeting was to help make known the V.F.W.'s demand for a strong Vietnam policy. Project committeemen, as representatives of 3,000 Maryland V.F.W. members, sent a letter expressing their views to Senator J. William Fulbright (Ark.), Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which was holding hearings on U.S. Vietnam policy.

POSTS CAN OBTAIN ISSUE ON CIRCUSES

• Posts considering booking circuses as fund raising projects can obtain, without charge, copies of the annual Circus Census issue published by *Amusement Business*.

The issue contains tips on how to book a circus and a listing of all circuses which will tour the U.S. this year, the areas they will tour and whom to contact on bookings.

A complimentary copy of the issue can be obtained by writing: *Amusement Business*, Circus Census Issue, 188 W. Randolph St., Chicago, Ill. 60601.



NEW GENERATION OF HEROES

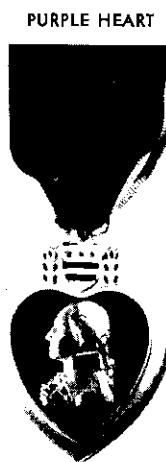
IN AN UNOFFICIAL WAR
THESE COMBAT AWARDS ARE OFFICIAL

By C. Brian Kelly

CAPT. ROGER H. C. DONLON, winner of the first Medal of Honor in the Vietnam War. At right is a picture of the medal, the highest military decoration.



SGT. LARRY S. PIERCE, father of three children, gave his life to save the members of his squad. He was awarded the second Medal of Honor for gallantry in the Vietnam War.



ARMY NURSES Barbara Wooster, Ruth Mason and Ann D. Reynolds are the first women selected to receive Purple Heart Medals in Vietnam. They were wounded in a terrorist bombing in Saigon.

AMERICANS fighting in South Vietnam have been earning Uncle Sam's entire range of military decorations from a newly-struck Vietnam Service Medal to the century-old Medal of Honor.

What's noteworthy is that the government is recognizing combat bravery and campaign service with war medals despite the absence of a declaration of war. The decorations going to men in Vietnam are available under unprecedented peacetime authority.

The machinery was set in motion in early 1962 when a certain news dispatch from Vietnam crossed the desk of President Kennedy. The dispatch told the story of a wounded American sergeant, one

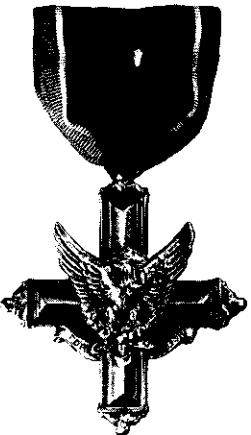
of 2,500 advisors serving with the Vietnamese Army, who was unable to receive the Purple Heart because regulations reserved the decoration for formal hostilities only.

The late President quickly issued an executive order unfreezing that battlefield award. The Purple Heart became available to servicemen not only in Vietnam but in any place where Americans served with friendly forces against an armed aggressor.

Actually, Kennedy demonstrated his concern for men exposed to Cold War rigors even earlier when he authorized the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal in 1961. Military personnel who served in crises from Berlin to Laos as long ago

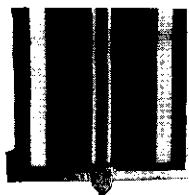


DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS



Major O'Neil

Lt. Roark

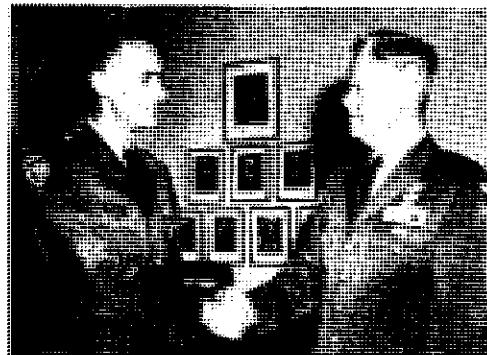


DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

as 1958 became eligible for the AFE Medal—and for membership in the V.F.W. For those now serving in Vietnam, the new Vietnam Service Medal replaces the AFE award. Of course, it too makes them eligible for membership in the V.F.W.

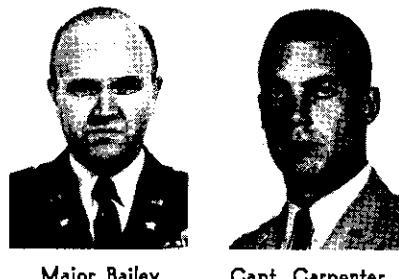
In mid-1962 President Kennedy realized that these two steps were not enough. American servicemen still could not receive awards for combat bravery. In August, Kennedy issued a third order opening the way for the Bronze Star and lesser awards to be given for valor and meritorious service in connection with armed conflict.

He dramatized this action by journeying to Walter Reed Hos-



C/WO KEITH R. BORCK (left), who fought off a VC attack against three downed choppers, won the first DSC of the Vietnam War. Gen. Hugh P. Harris made the award at the Pentagon.

SILVER STAR

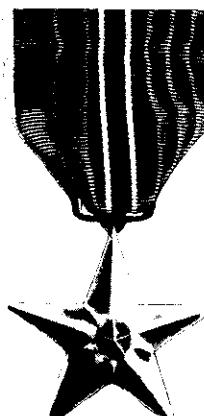


Major Bailey

Capt. Carpenter

AIR FORCE Major James O'Neil and Navy Lieutenant William Roark, both pilots and both posthumously awarded Distinguished Flying Cross.

ARMY Major Lawrence R. Bailey, Bronze Star winner for withstanding tortures in Red prison. Army Captain William Carpenter, winner of Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart.



BRONZE STAR

BACK HOME to recuperate, Lt. Walter J. Marn nominee for the Medal of Honor, is presented membership card for Post 3610, Philadelphia, by Past Dept. Surgeon Matthew F. Gutowicz (left).



pital for a bedside presentation of a Bronze Star for meritorious service. The recipient was Major Lawrence R. Bailey, a hero not of Vietnam, but of neighboring Laos.

Now 70 pounds shy of his usual weight the Major, assistant U.S. military attache in Laos, had withstood imprisonment by the Red Pathet Lao in a pitch dark room for 17 months. He had been captured when he bailed out of a C-47 brought down by ground fire.

The door still remained closed on America's highest combat awards—the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross and Silver Star—and it would take Congressional action to free them.

(Continued on page 35)

CITIZEN SOLDIERS

WITHOUT MOBILIZATION NATIONAL GUARD UNITS FLY CARGO TO VIETNAM

By *Corb Sarchet*

"COMING OFF THE STRIP at Da Nang, they were shooting at us. We could see the muzzle flash of small arms fire off in the distance."

This was the report of Lt. Col. Joel Friedman, back home in Warminster, Pa. after a 10-day round-trip flight as navigator on a Pennsylvania Air National Guard heavy transport, flying critically needed cargo into South Vietnam. He was home again and returning to his civilian job. This was his bit of war for this month.

There's a good chance that in the next 30 to 60 days, Colonel Friedman will be back in Vietnam again off-loading at Da Nang or Nha Trang or Tan Son Nhut, the big, bustling air base just outside of Saigon.

Colonel Friedman is one of the Air National Guardsmen writing an unusual chapter in the nation's history. In his civilian-airman status, he is playing a part-time role in a war 12,000 miles from home.

The Colonel is among the thousands of members of the Air Guard's 25 heavy transport squadrons who are flying hundreds of missions to South Vietnam and other Southeast Asia support bases, carrying tons of critical military supplies.

What is unusual is that they are doing it in a short-order, short-tour basis without their units being mobilized.

Leaving their civilian jobs, usually on a Friday afternoon, crew members who volunteer for these missions head for the air base rather than home. Their wives meet them with Valpacs and hanging bags at Base Operations.

The men undergo weather and mission briefings, there is a brief goodbye for wives and children, and Air Guard crews climb aboard their C-97 Stratocruisers or C-121 Super Constellations to head for Vietnam.

Round trips average out to about 10 days, normally arranged to include two weekends so that the airmen will be off from their civilian jobs only five or six days for each mission.

In their transports, they island-hop across the Pacific. They rarely are on the ground in Vietnam for more than four hours, just long enough to unload their aircraft and pick up return cargoes before retracing their routes across the vast Pacific.

This is the first time in history that National Guardsmen have been committed to overseas operations without being mobilized for federal service. The advantage to



Major James Marsh leaves Bangkok airport for overnight rest before starting 10,000-mile trip home to Oklahoma.

the Guardsmen, their employers and their families is that they are making a substantial contribution to the nation's military airlift operations without having to abandon their civilian jobs and disrupt their personal lives as would be the case if they were mobilized.

Leaving home bases, the Air Guard crews fly to either Kelly Air Force Base, Texas, or Travis Air Force Base in California to pick up cargoes.

After a brief rest, they lift off for Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii where they set down for a 12 to 15-hour stopover.

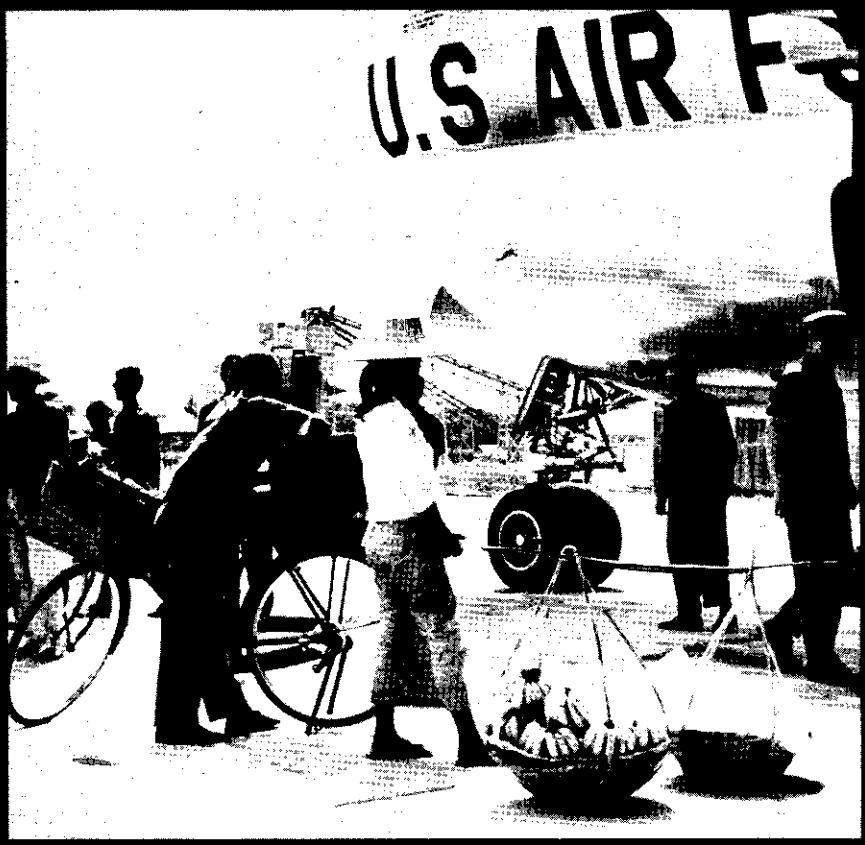
The next leg takes them either to Wake or Kwajalein islands. After a brief stop, they go on to Guam for refueling and then to the Philippines.

The last day of the flight is a long one. The Guard crews fly the final leg to South Vietnam and then after four hours or less for cargo handling and maintenance, they head back to the Philippines.

Minimum ground time is allowed in South Vietnam for transient aircraft because of the heavy volume of air traffic and the minimum parking and cargo handling facilities.

Even though it is a short war for them, it is still a fighting war. *(Continued on page 40)*

FIGHT A PART-TIME WAR



In Pacific, an ANG C-97 is loaded with U.S.-bound cargo. Left: A pretty fruit vendor and an ice cream man wait for ANG crew at Tan Son Nhut Airport. ANG planes also help evacuate casualties. Below, a wounded Marine is carried aboard a North Carolina National Guard plane.



THE NAME OF THE GAME IS—



Best of both worlds—fan takes TV football game with him to the baseball park.

AT \$75,000 PER MINUTE, TV ADVERTISERS ARE REWRITING THE RULE BOOK

SPORTS in recent years have become the hottest property on television, so hot indeed that sponsors stand in line practically begging to pay up to \$75,000 a minute to have their wares displayed.

There is probably no event on the sports horizon where the television camera hasn't poked its nose—baseball, football, golf, horse racing, basketball, hockey and on and on.

In baseball alone, the major league clubs this season are pocketing an estimated \$27,510,000 for the television-radio rights to their games. That is a boost of \$1,840,000 over what the clubs got in 1965.

In their quest for a bigger slice of the broadcasting dollar, the 20 teams this year will be paid \$17,760,000 from their home city stations and \$3,750,000 from the All Star game and the World Series as part of the \$27 1/2 million total.

Also in this figure is the \$6 mil-

lion which 19 teams will split for the Game of the Week series the National Broadcasting Company is televising in color. The Philadelphia Phillies can't participate in this pot since they are in the second year of a three-year, \$3,900,000 television contract of their own.

The television networks aren't just being altruistic in handing the big league teams these handsome subsidies. Advertisers are seemingly happy to pay about \$95 million this year so that the 1,620 season games can be interrupted by commercials promoting razor blades, beer, gasoline, soft drinks and so forth.

But professional football teams have been reaping the really big rewards from television.

Within the space of five days in 1964, professional football hit its biggest jackpot when the 22 teams in both the National Football League and the American Football League were handed almost \$65,-

Money!

By Ray Grody

000,000 by two national networks.

First came the Columbia Broadcasting System with a \$28,200,000 bundle to the NFL for the rights to telecast its league games in 1964 and 1965, the richest contract ever put together between TV and a sport.

Less than a week later, the National Broadcasting Company came up with a \$36,000,000 contract with the struggling AFL for telecasting rights from 1965 through 1969, guaranteeing each team in the circuit at least \$1,000,000. In the NFL during the 1964 season, commercial time sold for \$75,000 per minute.

While the figures attached to professional golf run well below these blockbusters, the Professional Golf Association did sign a 13-tournament package of nationally televised events for \$750,000 last year. As a result, an extra half million dollars was produced for the playing pros during 1965.

In addition, ABC bid \$606,000 for the television rights for PGA championship tournaments for three years, broken down to \$182,000 for 1965, another \$202,000 for 1966 and \$222,000 for 1967.

Nothing in the way of televised
(Continued on page 38)

MEMORIAL DAY

MAY 30, 1966



OTHER HOLIDAYS are festive occasions but Memorial Day is observed with dignity and reverence. The flag is flown at half staff until noon as a symbol of the nation mourning its dead. At noon it is raised to full staff symbolizing new hope for the future.

In still other ways Memorial Day is a brief rendezvous of the living with the dead—a meeting of conscience with memory. Even with the spring flowers we place on cemetery graves, we acknowledge the mystery of death in life.

On this day our thoughts travel around the earth to places we will never see again. With the mind's eye we see an exploding hillside, the ocean toying with debris from a shattered ship, a parachute disappearing through a tangle of trees. Far beyond the horizon lie the remains of comrades-in-arms who died in our places. They are silent and we must speak for them because each of us knows, "It might as well have been me."

Man's memory is short. It is too easy for us to forget the dead and that is why we set this day apart for remembering. What might they have been had they lived?

They were young men, those soldiers, sailors, flyers and Marines who died in past wars and who are dying today in Vietnam. They came from the mountains, the prairies, farms, crossroads, cities and towns. They were the apples of their parents' eyes and their lives lay before them—or so they thought. They loved life and liberty just as you and I love them and they faced life with eagerness to be up and doing, to take their places as leaders, as husbands and fathers. They were proud to be Americans so when the call came to serve as soldiers they folded up their dreams and ambitions and tucked them away in a corner of their minds until they could be taken up again when the war was over.

They sailed, marched and flew into battle and today a new generation of Americans is doing the same. They battled nobly on land, sea and air. They won the victory then just as the victory will be won in Vietnam. They won on the fields where their remains still lie. But we are alive here in the land of our birth. We are still free to build our lives and lead them under the freedom they won for us.

Now I ask you, my comrades, do we pay our debt to these dead comrades by honoring them on Memorial Day? Is it enough that we praise their names and deeds?

There are many other ways that we who survived past wars must honor the dead. The knowledge that "it might as well have been me" casts

upon us a deeper responsibility whether we want it or not. We are obliged to live other lives besides our own—the lives denied those young comrades who took our places in the ranks of the dead.

They died for democracy and freedom so it is up to us to make our democracy flourish. We can do this in our daily lives by acting on the principles of freedom and justice in our dealings with our fellow man.

But we can do even more as part of an organization than we can do as individuals. Members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars owe a great debt of gratitude to our farsighted founders who provided us with this instrumentality for doing our duty to fallen comrades. This is the reason I call for ever-greater efforts to enlist new members. I make that call proudly because the larger our organization, the more effective we can become in achieving them.

Each Post has become a living memorial through community projects that honor the dead by helping the living. Large and small throughout the nation, our Posts study their towns and neighborhoods searching for ways to improve them. The youths of America are given the opportunity to strengthen their bodies, minds and civic attitudes through programs organized by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

But we carry on a still more important living memorial by giving our full support to this magnificent new generation of American heroes which is fighting for us on the alien shores of Southeast Asia. This is the present front line of freedom and if we would help preserve that for which our comrades gave their lives, we must fight with all the imagination and will we can muster, the spirit of fear and despair that walks our land.

The enemy has beguiled many of our own countrymen and thinks to weaken us at home so that we will be unable to fulfill our commitments overseas. To the feckless youths who defile their native land with parades of protest—to the cringing leaders who counsel withdrawal from the battlefield—we must raise the hallowed banners of past campaigns and shout, "We are Americans. We do not cower. We do not desert our allies. We do not retreat."

We must reawaken the spirit that inspired those who won our freedom for us. This is a task at which we cannot fail if we are to discharge our responsibilities to those we honor on Memorial Day. ■

Andy Borg
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

A VETERAN OF VIETNAM SPEAKS OUT ABOUT V.F.W.

BY PETER E. FORGUES

• *Peter E. Forgues calls himself "a common, ordinary guy with no special title but very grateful to the V.F.W."*

Peter Forgues is a Vermonter, a veteran of Vietnam and now a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Appreciative of V.F.W.'s stand on Vietnam, Forgues and others have formed a Post in Windsor, Vt.

Forgues here tells of some of his Vietnam experiences and his "deep feeling of pride" in the V.F.W.

A LITTLE OVER TWO YEARS AGO, I was one of the less than 20,000 Americans serving in South Vietnam, then a place most folks at home didn't know or care about.

Now, there are over 200,000 U.S. fighting men in Vietnam and, thanks to great groups like the V.F.W., the attitude at home about "that dirty, little war" has changed.

My little unit was assigned to MAC-V, the United States' Military Assistance Command Vietnam. Our job was to assist the ARVN (the South Vietnamese Army) in "clear and hold" operations against the Viet Cong around strategic villages in the provinces.

Armed only with a revolver or a carbine, or heavier borrowed weapons if the area had more V.C. than government troops, we went from hamlet to hamlet by jeep. Some of the villages in the "boonies" could be reached only by air or with an ARVN operation.

Once a village had been secured, we would help the villagers dig wells, erect barbed wire and other defenses, and give them medical assistance. We had no regular hours; our working day averaged from 18 to 20 hours.

Each night before we could sleep, we had to complete paper work on the day's activities in the field. Many nights the V.C. would not let us sleep; they love to raise hell and do their dirty work under the cover of darkness.

Whenever there were complaints of fatigue the reply would be,

"Gentlemen, this is war." So back to the boonies we would go with new supplies of ammo, salt tablets, iodine and pills for malaria and diarrhea.

The hundreds of supply runs I made to and from Saigon as driver or shotgun rider added to the fatigue. Traveling at high speed, we had to be alert constantly for mines, road blocks and snipers. When we returned to a hamlet, we frequently would find that many of our completed projects had been damaged or destroyed by the V.C.

This gave us a feeling of hopelessness, since these projects had been painfully accomplished by hand and often with improvised materials. Frequently, the only lasting benefits the villagers would get from our labors would be the medical attention they received from our medics.

Our war in Vietnam two years or so ago had no glory of impending victory—only defeat. Our boys were shot at, ambushed, murdered, mutilated.

In those early days of Vietnam, our little advisory groups didn't have infantry and artillery, the bombs of the Air Force or the big guns of the Navy. It was continuous frustration and disappointment with many sick from dysentery, malaria, heat and exhaustion. Getting supplies for our work, food, water and shelter was a continual problem.

When we started back to the U.S., we were given a combat



Peter Forgues helps with well drilling in a Vietnamese hamlet.

patch, a campaign ribbon, a letter of appreciation from the area commander, and sometimes a Purple Heart or Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Then we returned to civilian life and read about the crackpots, the ignorant and the misguided. Very few at home seemed to know or care what we had been doing in Vietnam.

I was told that I had been involved in a useless and dirty war. Bitterness was in me. It seemed that all our efforts and the lives of fallen comrades were unappreciated by our own people.

Then true Americans stepped forward to the aid of the fighting men and veterans of Vietnam and their families. Right out in front was the Veterans of Foreign Wars, spearheading the fight against erroneous stories and supporting the facts about Vietnam.

The V.F.W. did not just coast out this black period or wait until this war became less unpopular before it took action. The men of the V.F.W. went out seeking us veterans of Vietnam, grasping our hands, welcoming us back. They made known their personal feelings of support for the job we had done. They invited us to join them.

The V.F.W. has done much for us who have returned from Vietnam and it is doing more for our fighting men who are still over there.

V.F.W., I am proud and honored now to be one of you. ■

V.F.W. COMMENDED BY TWO TEXAS LEGISLATORS FOR SUPPORTING NEW GI BILL

• Senator Ralph Yarborough and Representative Olin E. Teague, both of Texas, wrote to Commander-in-Chief Andy Borg soon after passage of the so-called "Cold War" GI Bill praising the V.F.W. for its strong and consistent support of the legislation.

Yarborough was principal author of the bill and, since 1959 when he became Chairman of the Veterans Affairs Subcommittee of the Senate, has worked vigorously for its passage. In his letter to Borg he said, "In gaining Congressional approval of the Cold War GI Bill, the V.F.W. was a tower of strength in lending its support to a comprehensive bill rather than a limited measure."

Yarborough added that he intends to seek improvements in the bill and, "I know I can look to the Veterans of Foreign Wars to make its presence felt again by providing the leadership and support to accomplish this objective."

The new GI Bill could not have been passed without the support of Representative Olin E. Teague who is Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee. In his letter to the Commander-in-Chief he said, "This legislation has been before us for many years and its final enactment is due in no small part to the efforts of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

"In the final weeks when this legislation was being formulated, V.F.W. national officers were working daily to assist in its enactment. I wish to express my appreciation for the strong support and assistance rendered by the Veterans of Foreign Wars."

PATIENCE, PLEASE, ON LITE-A-BIKE ORDERS

BECAUSE OF the seasonal surge of requests for Lite-a-Bike material, Posts ordering material from National Headquarters may have to wait three or four weeks for delivery, according to Jack Mathieson, National Youth Activities Director. Posts planning Lite-a-Bike promotions in the near future are advised to allow for this delay in delivery.

ARMED FORCES WEEK—MAY 21 • 28



FOR THOSE WHO SERVE:
A MEASURE OF RESPECT

This is Armed Forces Week, a proper time to consider these young Americans who fight in heat and slime and misery in alien places like Vietnam, in the kind of undeclared war of limited aim that is alien to our tradition.

They fight, as did their elder brothers in Korea—not for loot because there is none, not for glory, for there is little of that around, their homelands are not threatened, their fellow countrymen at home make no companion sacrifices, and no crusader's zeal drives them on. The question remains, what makes them do it and do it so well, beyond the minimum requirements that the uniform ordains.

In answer it has been said that they are professional soldiers; but boys of 19 and 20 are professional at nothing, certainly not at the meeting of life with death.

They fight, they endure, even though they may not understand the politics of this distant war, even though thousands of their countrymen tell them every day, in protest and parade, that the war they fight is a senseless war. They keep on, as they did in Korea, when these circumstances were much the same.

The real answer lies deep in the tissues of whatever is the substance that keeps America from becoming unstuck; it must have something to do with their parents and teachers and pastors, with their 4-H clubs and Scout troops and neighborhood centers. It has to do with the sense of belonging to a team, with the dis-honor of letting it down; but it also has to do with their implicit, unreasoned belief in their country and their natural belief in themselves as persons.

Whatever the full answer, it is a considerable thing that they are doing when they stick at this kind of war, fighting without universal support and fighting for aims obscured in the mist of the future.

Official weeks and days are impersonal symbols to take note of something intensely personal. But they provide an opportunity for the rest of us who are not covered with mud and weariness and nightly fear to pay a measure of respect.

—Eric Sevareid, CBS-TV News



CAPITOL DIGEST

BY FRANCIS W. STOVER

Director, V.F.W. National Legislative Service

RECENTLY APPROVED VETERANS LAWS: As Congress recessed for Easter, four veterans bills had been signed into law by President Johnson during second session. Most notable is the new GI Bill (P.L. 89-358). Other three are minor.

One authorizes veteran's burial allowance where the veteran died of service connected cause but had not filed for disability compensation (P.L. 89-360). Another provides statutory authority for the VA Deputy Administrator to take over duties of Administrator during absence or disability of Administrator or during vacancy of that office (P.L. 89-361). The third provides that where a veteran has left a VA hospital against medical advice or for disciplinary action, there will be no reduction of VA benefits upon readmission within six months (P.L. 89-362).



Robert A. Everett

NURSING CARE PROGRAM: VA nursing program is being reviewed by Special Subcommittee of House Committee on Veterans Affairs headed by Robert A. Everett of Tennessee, whose bill in 1964 (H.R. 8009) created the present nursing care program for veterans. Major concern is impact of Medicare on VA hospitals. It is unlikely that any legislation will be recommended as result of these hearings, but a much clearer picture should emerge concerning VA hospital and medical capability to provide care for veterans.

SENATE ACTION: The Senate Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs is considering five bills in medical field, including House-approved H.R. 11631 which would recognize VA contribution by providing money for the training and education of health service personnel.

Other bills are designed to bolster VA hospital system, but as pointed out by V.F.W., none of these measures should be so broad as to permit the care and treatment of non-veterans.

One of the bills, authored by Ralph Yarborough of Texas and co-sponsored by Majority Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana, is aimed at making hospitals in small towns and rural areas so strong there will never be any closing down of any VA hospitals in the future.

PARAPLEGIC RESEARCH: H.R. 203, which has been approved by the House, would help paraplegic veterans by making it mandatory that the VA spend at least \$100,000 a year for research on spinal cord injuries and diseases and should receive a green light by Senate.

ATTORNEY FEES ON VA CLAIMS: Of extreme interest to V.F.W. is a bill under consideration by a Subcommittee of Senate Judiciary Committee. This measure would eliminate the present \$10 limitation which is permitted to be charged by attorneys representing claims before the VA. In effect since 1878, this \$10 limitation has come under attack by the American Bar Association. V.F.W. is urging no change in present system of administering veterans benefits, which served our government and veterans and the public so well for many years.

COST OF LIVING: With the war in Vietnam escalating, the cost of living has sharply increased. Bills are going forward to equalize salaries of federal employees, pay scales of active duty military personnel, and other groups in recognition of cost of living increase. All who are retired on a fixed income suffer the most when inflation rears its ugly head. Congress is being reminded to keep compensation and pension checks abreast of cost of living increase.



Richard L. Roudebush

DESECRATION OF FLAG: To the surprise of most, there is no federal law at present against desecration of the flag. Congressman Dick Roudebush of Indiana, a former V.F.W. Commander-in-Chief, introduced a bill (H.R. 13942) which will make flag desecration a crime. The bill states, "Whoever publicly mutilates, defaces, defiles, tramples upon or casts contempt, either by word or act, upon any flag, standard, colors, or ensign of the United States" can be punished by imprisonment of not more than one year and a fine of not more than \$1,000. Senator Tower of Texas has introduced a similar bill in the Senate.

HEARINGS ON NATIONAL CEMETERIES: House Committee on Veterans Affairs may take up legislation concerning the whole national cemetery program, including those being administered by the Department of the Army and the 17 being cared for by the VA in connection with its hospital and domiciliary program.

There are 54 bills pending before the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee relating to national cemeteries. Congressman John Saylor of Pennsylvania, who serves on both of these committees, has introduced V.F.W.-sponsored H.R. 143, which is in the Interior Committee. For the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, Saylor also will introduce a bill which will authorize the VA to operate at least one cemetery in each state.

Culinary Capital of the World

NEW YORK CITY-1966 V.F.W. NATIONAL CONVENTION SITE

HUNGRY for something different?

Tried any *tempura* lately? Or if *tempura* is not to your taste, how about a piping hot plate of *paella*?

Maybe you could start out your meal with some *hummus*, although that can be a bit messy in consuming.

The comrades attending the 67th National Convention in New York City next August 19-26 can literally eat cuisine from around the world—if they want and if their stomachs and money hold out.

New York City has restaurants featuring the favorite foods and flavors of every nation and every part of the United States. And many of these 20,000 eating places are within a few blocks of the New York Hilton Hotel, the convention hotel.

If you are tempted by that *tempura* (it's fried shrimp), you have your choice of Japanese restaurants on 52nd or 56th Streets. The specialty of the Spanish restaurants is *paella*, a classic concoction of rice cooked with shellfish, sausages, chicken and spices which tastes even better when washed down with excellent Spanish wines.

If you go hunting for *hummus*, you will find it at most of the New York restaurants serving the foods of Syria, Egypt, Turkey, Israel, Armenia and other Near Eastern countries. It sounds like something you might spread on your garden, but this *hummus* is an appetizer of chopped chick peas and other ingredients held together with sesame oil and eaten by soaking it up with hunks of Syrian bread.

Ever since the first Dutch settlers three centuries ago wrote home about the great fish catches and the tremendous oyster beds, New York has been renowned for its sea food. It heads many menus, especially in the quaint eateries crowded around the Fulton Fish Market in Lower Manhattan.

You don't have to go to New York's Chinatown to find Chinese food. No matter where you are in the big city, there's a Cantonese restaurant every few blocks. Some



others offer the very different dishes of Shanghai, while a rare few feature Manchurian cooking.

If you want the crepe suzettes of France, the pasta and pizza of Italy, the wiener schnitzel of Austria, the smorgasbord of Scandinavia, the knackwurst and sauerbraten of Germany, New York has places to serve you these and other gastronomic delights.

But if during your eating out at the convention you get homesick

for some fine old-fashioned home cooking, there are many restaurants that prepare the familiar American dishes with a particular flair. One is Fraunces Tavern, the city's oldest restaurant at the tip of Manhattan on the spot where Washington bade farewell to his officers in 1783.

And if you want to combine eating with entertainment, almost all of the night clubs serve up fine food with their floor shows.

And good eating can be combined with your New York sightseeing. Food facilities from simple snack bars to fabulous dining rooms can be found in such attractions as the United Nations (where you may dine with the delegates), the garden restaurant of the Museum of Modern Art, Rockefeller Center with 24 restaurants of varying menu, and the Statue of Liberty, just to mention a few.

You can plan ahead for your convention adventures in eating with a New York restaurant guide which can be obtained without charge by writing: The New York Convention and Visitors Bureau, 90 East 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10017. The guide lists locations of restaurants, type of food each serves, and minimum prices.

Depending on where you are and what you are eating, dinners usually start at from \$2 to \$3.

However, if you begin running short of money before you wind up your convention adventures in eating, you can always try that uniquely American and New York-born institution, the automat. A dinner there can cost as little as 45 cents.

Register in advance for the 1966 Convention

(Make checks or money orders payable to V.F.W. 67th National Convention Corporation.)

V.F.W. 67th National Convention Corporation
New York Hilton Hotel, Rockefeller Center
Avenue of the Americas at 53rd St., New York, N.Y.

Enclosed is my check money order in the amount of \$3.00. Register my name or the name and number of our V.F.W. Post for representation at the 67th National Convention in New York, N.Y., August 19-26, 1966.

Name V.F.W. Post No.
(Please type or print)

Street Address

City and State Zip



Roxanna Harr



Edward Montelo



Dale Britton



Gary Bemis



Terry Lewis



Dennis Fessell

1966 NATIONAL HOME GRADUATES



Sandra Lahre



Jim Kenoyer



Leslie Haskill



Frank Bosze



Darlene Schwisow



Vernon Williams

TWELVE young residents of the V.F.W. National Home near Eaton Rapids, Mich. are scheduled to be graduated from the Eaton Rapids High School this June. Most plan to continue their education on V.F.W.-sponsored scholarships although a few of the boys may fulfill their military obligations first.

Finishing high school usually means that the graduate will say goodbye to the National Home. However, many continue to turn to the V.F.W., Ladies Auxiliary and the Military Order of the Cootie for assistance and guidance throughout the years.

The graduates with sponsoring Posts and years of arrival at the Home are:

ROXANNA HARR, Post 8404, Thompson, Iowa (1962), is enrolling at Lansing Community College for social study. She is the oldest of seven, all at the Home. Last fall she was Homecoming Queen at Eaton Rapids High.

EDWARD MONTELO, Post 450, Chicago, Ill. (1955). Ed, a high school athlete, plans to enter Lansing Community College. Later he hopes to study conservation at Michigan State. He has a sister Sharon, 14, and a brother Jeff, 12, at the Home.

DALE BRITTON, Post 4559, Tyrone, Pa. (1960). Dale is enrolling in a secretarial course at Lansing Business University. Of three sisters who came to the Home with Dale only Linda, 14, still lives there.

GARY BEMIS, Post 5909, Wheaton, Minn. (1959). Gary plans to enter military service. He is interested in a career in electrical work. His brother John, 14, also lives at the Home.

TERRY LEWIS, Post 3033, Cadillac, Mich. (1951). Terry plans to enroll at Lansing Community College. He has an older brother and sister, both Home graduates.

DENNIS FESSELL, Post 1693, New Albany, Ind. (1950). Dennis will study auto mechanics at Ferris State College. Dennis' mother has been housemother at the Home ever since she arrived with her four children in 1950. Dennis is the only one still at the Home.

SANDRA LAHRE, Post 6756, Detroit, Mich. (1962). Sandra will attend Michigan State University this fall. She will leave behind a brother and two sisters, all in their teens.

JIM KENOYER, Post 683, Ellensburg, Wash. (1960). Jim plans to follow in the footsteps of his brother Ray who was graduated from the home two years ago and is now in the Navy.

LESLIE HASKILL, Post 4152, Weberville, Mich. (1958). Leslie plans to study social work at Michigan State University. Like Roxanna, she is the oldest of a Home family of seven children.

FRANK BOSZE, Post 4033, Farmington, Mich. (1962). Frank plans to go to Lansing Community College although he may enter military service first.

DARLENE SCHWISOW, Post 6509, Petersburg, Mich. (1961). Darlene will enroll at Lansing Business University. Her brother Gene, a Home graduate, is in the Navy. Two step-brothers live at the Home, Delton Dargatz, 13, and Gerald Dargatz, 16.

VERNON WILLIAMS, Post 1431, Crawfordsville, Ind. (1960). Another high school athlete, Vernon wishes to attend Central Michigan University but may decide to join the Navy. Of Eskimo parentage, Vernon was adopted in infancy by a V.F.W. member, now deceased.

THE BUDDY POPPY MESSAGE



BY E. L. JENKINS
National Buddy Poppy Director

THE MESSAGE of the Buddy Poppy is coming to us today—tragically clear. It is symbolically emblazoned on an increasing number of flag-draped coffins arriving from Vietnam, solemnly reminding us of our duty to the families of those gallant men who have made the supreme sacrifice.

During the coming months many V.F.W. Posts will face the unhappy duty of assisting in laying to rest a comrade who has given his life in some faraway battle. It matters not whether he was a member of the V.F.W. at the time of his death.

V.F.W. Posts and Auxiliaries are being called on to take an active part in the final burial rites for these men. However, the task does not end with the funeral. Our Posts and Auxiliaries must be prepared to face the call for aid from the mothers, fathers, wives and children left behind by these deceased servicemen. There will be need for the small comforts we can offer in this time of sadness. There will be calls for aid in coping with government regulations for pensions, compensation and other benefits available to these families.

Those Posts and Auxiliaries which have built up sizeable relief funds through the annual sale of Buddy Poppies will not be caught short. They'll be ready to "honor the dead by helping the living."

It is conceivable that many orphans of men killed in Vietnam will have a just claim to the bounties provided by the V.F.W. National Home at Eaton Rapids, Mich. It is comforting to know that the Home is available to them. It stands as a monument to the V.F.W. Buddy Poppy sales which have borne the brunt of raising the funds so necessary to the Home's maintenance and operation.

From the date of its inception in 1922 as our "flower of remembrance," the Buddy Poppy has attracted the support of the man in the street. He has contributed proudly and generously. He can always be counted on when we give him the opportunity. His contribution will be generous if we let him know how we use the funds he provides.

Thousands of Posts and Auxiliaries are prepared for the 1966 Memorial Day Buddy Poppy sale. They have obtained the necessary permission to go on the streets. They have obtained a proclamation from the local mayor. They have used the many posters and guides available to them. They have ordered their Buddy Poppies and have them on hand. They have arranged for sales people to be on the streets early and late.

The 1966 Buddy Poppy sale will be during the two weekends pre-

ceding Memorial Day, May 21 and May 28. Those Posts and Auxiliaries which have been slow in getting under way still have time to act. Commander-in-Chief Andy Borg, who for many years has assisted in selling Buddy Poppies in his own town, has expressed the hope that this year will show a greater increase than ever before.

The needs of veterans of other wars have become dimmer with the passage of time, but the heartbreaks of the war in Vietnam are with us daily. The American citizen is willing and anxious to contribute to the relief and welfare of those who suffer most. The V.F.W. Posts and Auxiliaries which ask him to share in the burden of service to needy veterans and their dependents will be doing the man in the street, and themselves, a favor.

It is hoped that every member will enter into the spirit of the 1966 Memorial Day Buddy Poppy sale. The member who cannot go on the streets to sell Poppies may be able to furnish a car or transportation for others. He may have a son or daughter willing to sell Poppies. If he cannot spare a full day, perhaps he can be available for an hour or two.

This is the year to proclaim the message of the Buddy Poppy—service to needy veterans and their dependents!

**The
BEST
of**

YANK



Excerpts from the Famous World War II Magazine

(Names have been changed.)

Sinking of the Lexington

THE STORY of the end of the U. S. aircraft carrier Lexington during the Battle of the Coral Sea now can be pieced together.

It is a story of a crew with guts, men who nonchalantly ate ice cream as they slithered down the side of their sinking ship after a terrific battle. It is the story of a great ship whose greatest moment was her last.

The Lexington stood up under a concerted attack by Japanese dive-bombers and torpedo-carrying planes only to sink seven hours later, scarred by fire and broken by internal explosions. She didn't want to go down even then. It took torpedoes from an American destroyer to administer the *coup de grace*.

The Lexington was a big ship—one of the two largest carriers in the world, displacing 33,000 tons—and she was old. Launched in 1925, she normally carried 1,899 officers and men. She had room for 90 planes.

Charles Dorton, a Yeoman Third Class who was aboard, tells of the Japanese attack:

"The pilots of the torpedo planes were nervous. They're lousy shots.

"Things were happening fast. Anti-aircraft racket was awful. The sky was filled with lead. One Jap torpedo plane was hit by our machine gun fire when it was about 200 yards away. The Jap didn't have a chance to launch his fish, but kept coming right at us. He crashed into the ship near the port forward gun battery. Our boys quickly shoved the wreck off into the water before it could catch fire and explode the torpedo."

What was left of the Jap striking force veered off and vanished into the sun. The men of the Lexington, grim, sweating and tired, knew things weren't going well.

The bombs and torpedoes had started numerous fires below decks, and the Lexington took a six degree list. Within half an hour the damage control squads had her back on an even keel.

Five minutes later, however, the ship was shaken by a terrific explosion below decks. The communications broke down. Heavy fires started up again and spread rapidly toward the flight deck. Ammunition began to explode at intervals of a few minutes.

At last, with the Lexington's steering gear smashed, the fires hopelessly out of control, the order came to abandon ship. Friendly ships hovered about, waiting to remove the men.

The men took the order in stride. Some matched coins to see who would go first. Two gobs curled up and went to sleep. Some men filled their tin hats with ice cream and took it overside with them.

No lives at all were lost in the water. The ship's 8% casualties were sustained in combat.

The Lexington was still afloat. To prevent her from falling into enemy hands or being a derelict, a destroyer sent torpedoes into her riddled hull. When she went under at 7:45 p.m. on May 8, 1942, she was afire from stem to stern.

YANK, June 24, 1942



But none of the others insist on still wearing their bars.

GEN. PATTON AS MEDIC

• Camp Carson, Colo.—Sgt. Carroll Jewell, now at a hospital here, had heard a great deal about Gen. (George C.) Patton but had never seen him until one day during the Third Army break-through in France last summer. A German machinegun bullet caught the sergeant in the shoulder and knocked him from his tank. Three men came running to his aid.

"There was no feeling in my right arm," Jewell says. "I thought I had lost it and asked one of the medics about it." The third man bent down and eased his arm from behind him where it had twisted in the fall. "Here's your arm, soldier," he said, moving it before Jewell's eyes. Then Jewell recognized him. He was Gen. Patton.

"He pitched right in as though he was a medic and applied pressure to an artery to halt bleeding," Jewell says. "I think that I may owe my life to him. He had my head on his knee while he was applying pressure and the medics were bandaging my shoulder.

"He patted me on my good shoulder and told me, 'Don't worry, soldier. You'll come out all right.' That's what I like about the guy. He was right up there with us all the time while hell was popping."

YANK, June 8, 1945

THE SAD SACK



COMMANDERS OF THE MONTH



Sam Fruttoso
Ohio



Kenneth R. Keller
Kansas



William D. Cope
Mississippi



Oscar J. Authement
Louisiana



Donald F. Schira
Oregon



Sabin R. Morris
Vermont



Charles (Chick) Paris
Utah

REFLECTING THE RUSH to get V.F.W. Departments over 100% of their 1965 membership, new faces again appear in the Department Commanders of the Month contest. Taking over the top spots in their Divisions are the Commanders of Mississippi and Oregon, both appearing in the standings for the first time. The Commanders leading their Divisions in March, with the number in parentheses indicating the times each has held the position, are:

Div.	Commander	State
I.	Sam Fruttoso	(2) Ohio
II.	Kenneth R. Keller	(2) Kans.
III.	William D. Cope	(1) Miss.
IV.	Oscar J. Authement	(6) La.
V.	Donald F. Schira	(1) Ore.
VI.	Sabin R. Morris	(2) Vt.
VII.	Charles (Chick) Paris	(2) Utah

NATIONAL AIDES-DE-CAMP RECRUITING CLASS

These V.F.W. Members have distinguished themselves by winning appointments as National Aides-de-Camp, Recruiting Class, during the month of March.

To be eligible for this award, a member must collect the 1966 dues of at least 50 new and/or reinstated members.

The new appointments are: David E. Baucom, Post 2702, Huntsville, Ala.; George L. Malone, Post 3632, Tempe, Ariz.; Roy W. Hendricks, Post 9972, Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; James V. Allen, Post 4447, Helena, Ark.; Justus M. Smith, Post 9644, Ft. Logan, Colo.; William Gehrken, Post 511, New Britain, Conn.; Jerome Travers, Post 585, Meriden, Conn.; Gerry P. Noheimer, Post 1724, North Windham, Conn.; John F. Lawler, Post 2090, East Haven, Conn.; Wayne E. Eicher, Post 665, Columbus, Ga.; Calvin Davis, Post 5448, Griffin, Ga.; Otis T. Allen, Post 6605, Perry, Ga.; Richard L. George, Post 342, Rockford, Ill.; Clifford Vincent, Post 755, Springfield, Ill.; William Mayerle, Post 3579, Chicago, Ill.; Chester E. Smith, Post 3579, Chicago, Ill.; Herbert Eggers, Post 3579, Chicago, Ill.; Edward R. Urbanski, Post 3579, Niles, Ill.; Everett C. Goldman, Post 3281, Jeffersonville, Ind.; David R. Summers, Post 737, Council Bluffs, Ia.; Herbert E. Amer, Post 2288, Clinton, Ia.; James F. Chism, Post 56, Leavenworth, Kans.; Charles MacDonald, Post 639, Malden, Mass.; Edward Mulcahy, Post 1775, Arlington, Mass.; William Muldoon, Post 2346, Lynn, Mass.; Percy A. Melden, Post 2359, Danvers, Mass.; William Raub, Post 1635, St. Paul, Minn.; James Shimek, Post 1676, Ogema, Minn.; Bernard M. McClelland, Post 2618, Brookhaven, Miss.; E. G. Holloway, Post 3962, Corinth, Miss.; Winfred B. Dawson, Post 4877, Booneville, Miss.; Archie Hardnock, Post 131, Lincoln, Nebr.; Lawrence A. Durfee, Post 131, Lincoln, Nebr.; Orlen Volquardsen, Post 1644, Norfolk, Nehr.; Charles A. Bengel, Jr., Post 2117, Woodbury, N.J.; John Pluta, Post 2314, Carteret, N.J.; Edward F. Lubowicki, Post 3117, Menlo Park, N.J.; Henry Stasion, Post 4591, Hasbrouck Heights, N.J.; Clarence Reill, Post 5700, Trenton, N.J.; Russell C. Gratta, Post 6763, South Plainfield, N.J.; Sam Eisner, Post 271, Bronx, N.Y.; Charles Schnutz, Jr., Post 301, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Ralph L. Gibbo, Post 569, Fulton N.Y.; Loy Strasmer, Post 382, El Reno, Okla.; Wilburn L. Gartrell, Post 1189, Okmulgee, Okla.; Leo Gertner, Post 1189, Okmulgee, Okla.;

Lenaird Scroggins, Post 9265, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Vincent J. Sheller, Post 106, West Chester, Pa.; John H. Finnigan, Post 432, Lester, Pa.; Mahlon G. Deneault, Post 6342, Woonsocket, R. I.; A. M. Conner, Post 1289, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Ed Linder, Post 4848, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Major Lee Samples, Post 4848, Chattanooga, Tenn.; William H. Felty, Post 6975, Bristol, Tenn.; Ramiro Martinez, Post 7175, Millington, Tenn.; William R. Arnette, Post 8422, Smyrna, Tenn.; Tilden A. Wallace, Post 8422, Smyrna, Tenn.; Thomas H. Keys, Post 8422, Smyrna, Tenn.; Jesse M. Kirkland, Post 4950, Lamesa, Texas; Clint Leone, Post 6384, Nederland, Texas; Alfred L. Michaud, Post 8562, Eagle Pass, Texas; Walter T. Gardner, Post 8785, Mesquite, Texas; Herman Constable, Jr., Post 8790, Houston, Texas; Daniel B. Alleman, Post 5787, Spanish Fork, Utah; John K. Morris, Post 637, Hopewell, Va.; William O. Eaton, Post 2123, Winchester, Va.; Perry H. Butcher, Post 1064, Huntington, W. Va.; Eddie Cox, Post 1064, Huntington, W. Va.; William Meyer, Post 1881, Cheyenne, Wyo.; Robert L. Mengel, Post 2321, Green River, Wyo.

1966 POSTS OF 1,000 MEMBERS OR OVER

Recorded on 3-31-66

Place No.	Post	Location	1966 Membership
1	1990	Greeneville, Tennessee	2376
2	2702	Huntsville, Alabama	2335
3	3382	Kingsport, Tennessee	2261
4	9723	Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands	2243
5	3579	Park Ridge, Illinois	2203
6	131	Lincoln, Nebraska	2185
7	112	Wichita, Kansas	2117
8	668	Birmingham, Alabama	2037
9	283	Kingston, Pennsylvania	1880
10	47	Uniontown, Pennsylvania	1851
11	1216	Austin, Minnesota	1844
12	4848	Chattanooga, Tennessee	1763
13	6975	Bristol, Virginia	1718
14	1874	Grand Forks, North Dakota	1688
15	3851	Cormi, Illinois	1683
16	249	Butler, Pennsylvania	1654
17	1114	Evansville, Indiana	1588
18	628	Sioux Falls, South Dakota	1554
19	762	Fargo, North Dakota	1540
20	6896	Detroit, Michigan	1522
21	360	Mishawaka, Indiana	1503
22	2166	Elizabethton, Tennessee	1423
23	1857	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	1401
24	1064	Huntington, West Virginia	1388
25	589	Hazleton, Pennsylvania	1327
26	1848	Jackson, Tennessee	1318
27	428	St. Cloud, Minnesota	1314
28	1289	Chattanooga, Tennessee	1255
29	847	Superior, Wisconsin	1246
30	1273	Rapid City, South Dakota	1232
31	573	Clarksburg, West Virginia	1225
32	2055	Centralia, Illinois	1224
33	271	Bronx, New York	1224
34	1146	St. Clair Shores, Michigan	1220
35	548	Morgantown, West Virginia	1216
36	401	Albuquerque, New Mexico	1209
37	367	Joliet, Illinois	1151
38	3580	Blue Island, Illinois	1151
39	1391	Racine, Wisconsin	1137
40	4057	Tupelo, Mississippi	1135
41	2825	Chicago Heights, Illinois	1133
42	49	Mobile, Alabama	1125
43	2149	Bensenville, Illinois	1124
44	1804	Norristown, Pennsylvania	1120
45	1865	Kenosha, Wisconsin	1094
46	155	Johnstown, Pennsylvania	1085
47	4919	Sheffield, Alabama	1082
48	1650	Topeka, Kansas	1066
49	2290	Manville, New Jersey	1063
50	2529	Sandusky, Ohio	1057
51	905	Gardner, Massachusetts	1056
52	577	Tulsa, Oklahoma	1037
53	245	Sellersville, Pennsylvania	1035
	6800	Somerville, Massachusetts	1035
	4276	Mt. Carmel, Illinois	1033
	529	Somerville, Massachusetts	1004



V.F.W. IN ACTION



USING MONEY raised in its Buddy Poppy drive, Post 3709, Watertown, Wis., recently purchased this chair-lift for invalids, which will be loaned out as part of the Post's Community Activities program. Left to right: Post Commander Lloyd Giese, Post Junior Vice Commander and Buddy Poppy Chairman Allen Bliese and Post Adjutant Richard Strohbusch.



AN ANNUAL WREATH CEREMONY for men killed at sea is conducted by Post 10013, Stamford, Conn. From left are Lt. Donald J. Brocklehurst, Commander of the Naval Reserve Training Center in Stamford; Joseph Poltrack, Jr., who served on the USS Constellation off Vietnam; and Joseph Poltrack, Sr., ceremony chairman and Past Post Commander.



POST 8080, Hoffman Estates, Ill., has reason to be doubly proud. It sponsors not one, but two, national champion football teams—the Raiders, ages 11-13; and the Commandos, ages 9-12. Both teams won all 20 league games; both played in the Milk Bowl games in Daytona Beach, Fla., on Thanksgiving Day; and both won those games to become National Champions of the Pop Warner League. Adults shown with the Raiders above are (L. to R.): Past Post Commander Marv Reed, Otto Zischke and Eugene Camel; Coach Lou Delito, Post Commander Slim Takahashi, Jr. Vice Commander John Milowski and Comrade John Mitchell. Below the same Post members are shown with the Commandos and their Coach, Bill Pichler (third from left), and Comrade Eugene Lewandowski (rear, center).



A SWORD is presented by Post 6884, National Park, N.J., to Fred Marlin, Jr., a 1965 Naval Academy graduate and 1964 captain of the Navy football team who won awards as an outstanding athlete. (L. to R.) Bill Carr, Navy Cross winner; Marlin, whose father is a member of the Post; and Gene Horan, retired Lieutenant Commander.



WALTER M. HALL, president of a car agency and a member of the V.F.W. in Wilmington, Del., is proclaiming his support of our men in Vietnam via 40 billboards across the state. With Hall (right) by one of the signs is Department Commander Ronald Riale.

TWENTY-ONE YEARS after he was wounded in the Battle of the Bulge, Representative Joseph P. Vigorito of Pennsylvania receives his Purple Heart from Lt. Col. Richard T. McCrady. Vigorito is a member of Post 470, Erie, Pa.

FLORIDA

An 11-year-old Bradenton, Fla., boy and his eight-year-old brother were fishing one day last December. For a moment, they left their rods and reels while they walked a short distance away.

Then they saw a truck driving off and their fishing tackle was gone. In a letter to the local newspaper describing the incident, the 11-year-old wrote: "I would like to ask you how grown-ups can expect us to grow up honest when they aren't."

Almost before the ink on the newspaper printing the boy's letter was dry, Post 8199 of Anna Maria Island, Fla., had presented him a new rod and reel. The Post's action was reported in the next issue of the paper.

RHODE ISLAND

Ceremonies marking the 68th anniversary of the sinking of the battleship *Maine* in Havana harbor were held February 15 in Woonsocket, R.I., with members of Post 263 and its Auxiliary participating. Two veterans of the Spanish-American War, both in their 80s, took part in the "Remember the Maine" Day observance.



DRAWING THE NAME of a serviceman stationed in Germany to receive a Christmas eve call from his parents are officials of Post 2048, Elmhurst, Ill., and the city's mayor. From left are Senior Vice Commander John Davis, Commander Norman G. Rohrsen, Mayor Charles Weigel, Jr. and Junior Vice Commander Earle Fleege.

ILLINOIS

SEVERAL PROJECTS conducted by Post 2048, Elmhurst, Ill., to boost the morale of local servicemen have brought a "heart-warming response" and a "feeling of accomplishment," a Post official said.

Before Christmas, the local newspaper helped the Post obtain the names and addresses of the servicemen and then each was sent a greeting card and personal message by the Post. In a drawing, an Army Private stationed in Germany was selected to receive a Christmas eve phone call from his parents, whom he had not seen in two years.

Christmas gifts also were sent to Post and Auxiliary members' sons and daughters who are in the service. In replies of appreciation, many of the servicemen mentioned they someday would like to belong to the Post. If they are eligible, the Post is paying their membership fees for as long as they remain in service.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

General Orders No. 8

1965-66 Series

1. The following appointments are hereby announced:

National Legislative Committee:
Richard E. Ress, Post No. 3345, Strongsville, Ohio

National Deputy Chiefs of Staff:

Arthur Taber, Post No. 1238, Bellevue, Ohio
Charles A. Adonizio, Post No. 635, Pittston, Pennsylvania
William S. Eisenbise, Post No. 179, Reading, Pennsylvania
George E. Evans, Post No. 12, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
George Murgenovich, Post No. 48, Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania
John J. Redick, Post No. 402, Coraopolis, Pennsylvania

National Convention Director:

Arthur J. Vater, Post No. 3254, Buffalo, New York

2. Attention of Department Quartermasters is directed to paragraph (g) under the heading "Duty of Department Quartermaster," Section 517, Manual of Procedure, mandating preparation of a tentative annual budget. The budget shall provide for a dues reserve fund as specified by paragraph (1) same section.

3. Attention of retiring and incoming Post Commanders is directed to Section 218, Manual of Procedure, "Duty of Trustees." This is especially important to both retiring and incoming Commanders. Form P-113, Trustees Report of Audit, must be prepared in detail at the close of each quarter, subject to penalties of Section 213.

4. Department and Deputy Inspectors will intensify their efforts to forward inspection reports for every Post prior to the Department Convention.

5. Resolutions for consideration of the 67th National Convention must first be approved by the Department Convention. Promptly following the close of the Department Convention the Department Adjutant will transmit a copy of each approved resolution to the Adjutant General. Each resolution should bear a title and number for identification purposes.

6. Proposed amendments to the National By-Laws must be in proper form and must be approved by the Department Convention. Such proposals should be specific and definite as to the section, line or paragraph to be amended, with exact wording of additions or deletions.

7. Announcement is made of the consolidation of Hoosier Post No. 624, Indianapolis, Indiana; Indianapolis-Irvington Post No. 2999, Indianapolis, Indiana; and NAFI Post No. 9979, Indianapolis, Indiana, the consolidated Post to be known as Indianapolis-Irvington Post No. 2999, Indianapolis, Indiana.

8. Announcement is made of the change of location of the following Posts in accordance with Section 206 of the National By-Laws: Duck Creek Post No. 7534 from Town of Howard, Wisconsin to Village of Howard, Wisconsin.
Adkins-Cubbage Post No. 1207 from Camden, Delaware to Dover, Delaware.
Hollis Post No. 2030 from St. Albans, L. I., New York to Hollis, New York.
South Umpqua Post No. 4336 from Days Creek, Oregon to Canyonville, Oregon.

9. So much of paragraph 15, General Orders No. 7, 1965-66 series, as announced the authorization of charter to Post No. 945, Seaside, Oregon, is hereby corrected to show the official Post number as 9456.

10. Announcement is hereby made of the authorization of charters to the following Posts:

No. 1168	Fern Creek, Kentucky	No. 7011	Hunlock Creek, Pennsylvania
No. 1956	Biggs, California	No. 7257	Pierce, Idaho
No. 2088	Everett, Pennsylvania	No. 7296	Riegelsville, Pennsylvania
No. 2559	Quinlan, Texas	No. 7512	Stockton, California
No. 2794	Dunlap, California	No. 7657	Bradshaw, West Virginia
No. 3014	Maryland Heights, Missouri	No. 8193	Opa Locka, Florida
No. 3302	Middletown, Kentucky	No. 8212	Carbon Hill, Alabama
No. 4230	Gibraltar, Michigan	No. 8311	Elk City, Idaho
No. 4535	Dunbar, Illinois	No. 8393	Atlanta, Georgia
No. 4563	Keosauqua, Iowa	No. 8463	Cape Coral, Florida
No. 4621	Prattville, Alabama	No. 8524	Ashford, Alabama
No. 5421	Shively, Kentucky	No. 8842	Cliffside Park, New Jersey
No. 5503	Winfield, Alabama	No. 9113	Wellsville, Kansas
No. 5805	Hugo, Oklahoma	No. 9141	Soda Springs, Idaho
No. 5838	Joppatowne, Maryland	No. 9213	Daly City, California
No. 5918	Los Angeles, California	No. 9496	Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin
No. 6171	Greensboro, Alabama	No. 9541	Brundidge, Alabama
No. 6702	Claysville, Pennsylvania	No. 9685	Windsor, Vermont
No. 6927	Vancouver, Washington	No. 9871	North Ridgeville, Ohio
No. 7008	Liberty, Kentucky	No. 10023	Defiance, Ohio
		No. 10054	Indian Springs, Nevada

Official:
JULIAN DICKENSON
Adjutant General

By Command of:
ANDY BORG
Commander-in-Chief

A NEW GENERATION OF HEROES

(Continued from page 9)

In July, 1963 Congress passed the amendment authorizing the medals. In Korea the medals were bestowed because Americans there faced an armed enemy of the U.S. The new legislation covered situations of men "serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party." In a word — Vietnam.

With the way cleared and the Vietnam fighting widening every day, growing numbers of American servicemen began wearing combat medals for the first time since Korea.

The Army can claim the lion's share of the Vietnam awards. But then it has the largest complement of personnel there. A proportionate number of Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps members have distinguished themselves and the awards cut across commissioned and enlisted ranks without discrimination.

Only three Medals of Honor have been awarded so far for service in Vietnam. The Medal of Honor is the only medal requiring the President's personal approval. Thus it was President Johnson who bestowed the rare citation upon Captain Roger Donlon of Saugerties, N.Y. in late 1964. "No one who has seen military service will

fail to appreciate and understand the magnitude of Captain Donlon's heroic performance under enemy fire and in darkness," Johnson noted at the White House ceremony.

Six months earlier, Donlon was the CO for Special Forces Detachment A-726 at little-known Nam Dong. His citation states: "A reinforced Viet Cong battalion suddenly launched a full-scale, pre-dawn attack on the camp. During the violent battle that ensued, lasting five hours and resulting in heavy casualties on both sides, Captain Donlon directed the defense operations in the midst of an enemy barrage of mortar shells, falling grenades and extremely heavy gun fire . . ."

Early in the fighting the 30-year-old officer suffered a severe stomach wound. He stuffed a handkerchief in it and continued his efforts despite receiving three more wounds in the leg, shoulder and face. One of the 11 Americans under Donlon said the CO kept moving from position to position though "it was suicide to raise your head."

First running, then hobbling and finally crawling, his successful defensive effort ended with his guiding in the flare aircraft by radio. When a relief force arrived after

(Continued on next page)

NUMBER OF MEDALS AWARDED

	WWII	KOREA	VIETNAM*
MEDAL OF HONOR	430	128	3
D S C**	8,082	972	61
SILVER STAR	82,868	12,146	506
LEGION OF MERIT	24,704	3,882	347
BRONZE STAR	423,938	85,000	7,311
PURPLE HEART	962,403	136,913	16,161

* Vietnam figures are through January, 1966. Later figures not available.
** Includes Navy Crosses and Air Force Crosses.



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National Security



By Brigadier General James D. Hittle, USMC (Ret.)
DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

THE protesters and critics of a strong U. S. policy on Vietnam have been caught with their facts wrong again.

What's happened is this: the demonstrators, placard carriers, and self-appointed "experts" at campus teach-ins have been saying that the U.S. does not have a basic, long-range strategy for fighting the war.

The answer to this kind of misinformation was made recently by Deputy Secretary of Defense Cyrus R. Vance. In an important but unfortunately too-little-noted speech in Chicago, he discussed U.S. objectives and strategy in Vietnam.

As those who have heard him speak at V.F.W. National Conventions well know, Secretary Vance talks in straight and simple terms.

Here are some of the principal points Vance made:

The objective of our fight in South Vietnam is clear-cut and uncomplicated: "It is to provide the necessary security so that 16 million citizens of South Vietnam can freely choose their own future—rather than be the hopeless victims of Communist-directed and supported subversion and attack."

This should give the protesters and demonstrators something to chew on. Anyone against this U.S. objective is putting himself in the position of being against freedom and at the same time, in favor of Communist aggression.

Our strategy in Vietnam, Vance said, has four basic points:

"First, to find, fight, and destroy the Communist main force units.

"Second, to extend the area under positive governmental control, thus providing a security screen.

"Third, behind that screen, to proceed with the program of rural reconstruction.

"And fourth, to interdict the infiltration of men and materiel."

What this means, then, is that the U.S. government well recognizes that our effort in Vietnam must be a combined military, social and economic one. It also means that, contrary to the critics of our Vietnam policy, the U.S. does recognize that military action alone won't bring final victory.

It means also that the rebuilding of villages, establishing schools and hospitals, restoring roads and providing security for the Vietnamese farmers to work their land free from Red terrorists, must go on concurrently with military operations as part of the over-all strategy for establishing a stable government.

And there is realism in openly recognizing that these social and economic programs can't be accomplished until, through military action, the back of the Communist aggression is broken.

It's too bad that there hasn't been more of this kind of plain talk like Vance's on Vietnam. It's what is needed to clear up a lot of the confused thinking in this country over our Vietnam policy. ■

A NEW GENERATION OF HEROES

(Continued from page 35)

daybreak, he said to the senior officer: "Request permission to turn over my command."

The second Medal of Honor for Vietnam heroism was presented by the President on Feb. 27 to the widow of Army Sergeant Larry S. Pierce of Wewoka, Okla. Pierce, a member of the 173rd Airborne Brigade, was killed Sept. 20, 1965 near Ben Cat, Vietnam.

The 24-year-old paratrooper's citation reads in part: "Sergeant Pierce was serving as a squad leader in a reconnaissance platoon when his patrol was ambushed by hostile forces. Through his inspiring leadership and personal courage, the squad succeeded in eliminating an enemy machine gun and routing the opposing forces."

"While pursuing the fleeing enemy the squad came upon a dirt road and, as the main body of his men entered the road, Sergeant Pierce discovered an anti-personnel mine emplaced in the road bed. Realizing that the mine could destroy the majority of his squad, Sergeant Pierce saved the lives of his men at the sacrifice of his own by throwing himself directly onto the mine as it exploded . . ."

The week before this presentation, another Army man was recommended for the high award for a similar act of gallantry. Sp-4 Daniel Fernandez, 21, of Los Lunas, N. M., a rifleman with the 25th Infantry Division, smothered an exploding grenade with his body. Four of his buddies lived as a result of Fernandez's supreme sacrifice.

A third Medal of Honor for Vietnam bravery was awarded posthumously April 21 to the father of PFC. Milton Olive III of Chicago, Illinois, who was killed last October when he fell on a grenade to save the lives of four of his comrades. He was the first Negro to receive the nation's highest military honor in the Vietnam fighting.

Others considered for the Medal of Honor are Sp-4 W. D. Burnett of Republic, Wash.; and Lt. Joseph Marm of Washington, Pa. who

recently became a V.F.W. member.

Marm stormed a machine gun nest and killed 18 of the enemy single-handedly in the First Air Cavalry's bloody battle in the Ia Drang Valley last November.

As President Johnson noted in the ceremony for Donlon, there have been others. "Individual bravery among the members of our forces there," Johnson said, "is much more the rule than the exception. I think it detracts nothing from the honor that a grateful nation pays today to Captain Donlon to say that we proudly salute all the men of all the services who are participating so valiantly in that effort."

Among the hundreds who have earned combat awards are men who displayed courage in defense of their Vietnamese comrades, pilots who braved the ground-fire and missiles in North Vietnam, men who returned to battle to win yet another medal—and dead heroes whose families are harassed by venomous phone calls from opponents of America's stance in Vietnam.

Overall the nasty, undeclared war in Southeast Asia has resulted in a number of special provisions for the peacetime soldier, sailor and airman: new life insurance for troops in Vietnam, hazardous duty pay, inscription of the word "Vietnam" on their gravestones and, as a result of recommendations by the V.F.W., free mailing privileges and liberalization of duty-free gift mailing privileges.

But the step that perhaps means most has been the granting of the right to combat awards. In turn, the selfless devotion to duty of the medal winners provides a hearty tonic for a nation beset by bearded peace-niks.

President Johnson may have uttered the best tribute to this new generation of heroes at a White House ceremony almost two years ago. Presenting the Silver Star to the widow of Army Special Forces Sergeant Harry A. Walling of San Jose, Calif. the President said:

"No medal, no words, no eulogy of ours can honor him so highly as he has honored our country and our cause."

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THE NAME OF THE GAME IS MONEY

(Continued from page 12)

sports events comes cheaply. According to one source, telecasting the last Olympics in Tokyo, Japan cost \$1.2 million; the world's figure skating championships came to \$50,000; a rodeo runs around \$25,000, auto races \$15,000 and so on down the line.

A real bombshell was dropped into the sports picture in 1964 when CBS purchased the New York Yankees for \$11,200,000. There was much fussing about this deal. Many believed that the broadcasting enterprise would now be in a position to dictate baseball policy. But after a few probes the whole thing was dropped and TV became a partner in major league baseball.

NBC telecasts either one regular college game nationally or four regionally each weekend during the football season. But the schedule is made up before the season starts and by the time August comes around, a game billed prior to the season can lose its appeal because of a poor record by either or both teams. Avid football fans will most likely shop around for a better attraction on another channel.

Television has also been the first concern of men looking to stage a bowl game. A likely promoter seeking to start such an affair doesn't go through the proper channels of seeking permission from the NCAA. The first thing he does is seek out a television contract. Once he accomplishes this maneuver he's in business.

But then if television (CBS) could buy one baseball team, what is to prevent it from buying another—or a football franchise or for that matter an entire league? It's probably stretching the point a bit but the networks with their immense holdings (via TV payments) in pro football could some day gain complete control.

Baseball got a hint along those lines when Thomas W. Moore, president of ABC, proposed that the major leagues cut their playing schedule from 162 to only 60 games because it would make a

neater package for television to sell to sponsors. The idea was met with derision and nothing more was done or heard about it. But since that surprise announcement by Mr. Moore, CBS snatched up the Yankees and ABC dished out millions of dollars to the majors for a Saturday spectacular of baseball.

Pro football to some extent has buckled under a changing format dictated by the television industry. Extra timeouts were ordered so the sponsors could get more commercials before the watching public and these temporary interruptions were dictated, not by an official of the game, but by the TV director. In addition the time between halves of the game was sliced from 20 to 15 minutes so that TV could present a neat package of 2½ hours. The extra timeouts, incidentally, have also been adopted by the colleges for the same reason.

Sports on television is now a year-round program. It is obvious then that TV has an insatiable appetite for sports attractions. But for a very good reason—big money.

Michigan Loses Adjutant-Quartermaster

CHRISTIE J. BRAUN, Adjutant-Quartermaster of the Department of Michigan for 18 years, died March 28 at Lansing's Sparrow Hospital. As Supreme National Home Chairman for the Military Order of the Cootie, Braun was originator and chief organizer of the annual Cootie Christmas Party for the V.F.W. National Home children since 1947. Although the 73-year-old Braun spoke of retiring from that position in recent years, he never did and last Christmas was still in harness with one of the largest parties ever. To hundreds of Home children over the years he was known as "Uncle Christie."



He was a member of Post 701, Lansing, Mich. A son, Jack, attends Michigan State.

Along the Red Front

By Donald L. Miller

EVERY SO OFTEN someone stands up to say that the Communist Party and the Soviet Union is mellowing. They claim that Communists no longer are much of a menace to the U.S. or the free world.

Of course, changes are going on in the U.S.S.R. The common people are demanding more consumer goods, more economic incentives, more personal liberty for themselves.

But the Party bosses aren't changing. Fifty-nine-year-old Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev made this clear on the opening day of the Party's 23rd congress last month. He said the Communist Party of the Soviet Union will do everything it can to make the "world socialist system to become ever mightier and to advance from victory to victory."

What kind of victory? Brezhnev talked about supporting Cuban Communists, Communist North Koreans, the Viet Cong, and all others who are seeking to put Reds into power in their own countries or their own areas of the world.

Nor did he limit himself to peaceful or even non-violent means. Since people cannot be expected to surrender to the Reds of their own free will, he predicted:

"It is only through tenacious class battles that the working class [that is, the Communist Party] and the rest of the working people will achieve victory."

Here's what Moscow does to help advance these revolutions:

- Trains revolutionary agents who are natives of the countries in which they will work. Two Communist training camps were discovered in Ghana after Kwame Nkrumah was overthrown. Thousands of agents

from all over Latin America are now being trained in Castro's Cuba. Additional thousands from other lands are trained in the Soviet Union itself.

- Coordinates revolutionary activities in different countries by means of *World Marxist Review*, periodic meetings and conferences and, on occasion, by direct orders.

- Provides propaganda and agitational materiel to local revolutionaries by way of Soviet or other Communist embassies or consulates.

- Provides financing. Several Red agents have been caught bringing money from Europe into Venezuela for revolutionary purposes in Latin America.

- Other means, which include providing weapons and ammunition, organizing worldwide demonstrations for the revolutionaries, standing up for the revolutionaries in world bodies and sending in experts when these are needed.

The rest—the work of infiltrating, agitating, subverting, and otherwise developing tenacious class warfare, from the staging of rallies up to guerrilla and civil war—is up to the trained revolutionary agents.

While the fighting is going on, of course, the boys who are behind it all sit back in Moscow far from the fields of battle and talk about peace, disarmament, expanding trade, relaxing international tensions and the like.

These top Reds are running a big fraud and they've been winning with it. It's time for us to get behind efforts to train experts in the know-how and determination needed to defeat revolutionary warfare when and where it starts—on grassroots levels inside countries of the free world. ■



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See advertisement on second cover

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masters of the Air Force Reserve.

During the first three months of 1966 these C-124s manned by Air Force Reservists flew some 75 missions in the Pacific area including eight to Vietnam, 40 to Hawaii, 11 to Japan, 14 to Okinawa, two to Alaska, and 10 to Pago Pago.

The Air Guard has flown 225 special missions since January 1. Most of these were to Vietnam. In addition, another 130 of the 375 "training flights" will be over the Pacific. Each of these flights can carry 10 tons of cargo.

When the Vietnam buildup started in early 1965, the Air Guardsmen boosted their overseas flight schedule to some 150 flights a month to help MAC reduce the mountains of supplies building up in Stateside terminals. By October, the Air Guard was hauling more than 20 per cent of the cargo going to Europe in military airplanes, thus aiding the Vietnam airlift indirectly by letting MAC shift aircraft to meet Vietnam needs.

The big lift came during the Christmas season. When a grateful nation began building up tons of gifts to be sent to its fighting men in Vietnam, the Air Reserve received an urgent request for help in what came to be known as "Operation Christmas Star."

The Reserve's C-119 "Flying Boxcars" and C-124s assembled the gifts at selected terminals and the Air Guard's transports took them to Vietnam. Air Guard crews flew 75 missions, carrying 545 tons, while Air Reserve C-124 crews flew seven missions, carrying 55 tons, into Vietnam.

Without hesitation the citizen-soldiers left their families and homes during the holiday season to spend some 11 days on the long, lonely Pacific run. It was a job well done and brought well-deserved praise from Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara.

But, ironically, even while the volunteers were on their way to Vietnam, the Defense Secretary announced a cutback in transport elements of the Air Reserve Forces. No longer needed, he said, were eight Air Reserve C-119 Troop Carrier Groups and three

Air Guard heavy transport squadrons, two of which had planes en route to Saigon at the time.

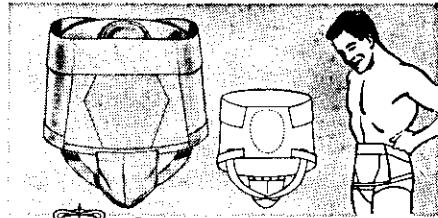
At about the same time came a request to step up airlift operations. The Guardsmen responded with their usual enthusiasm. Despite the Defense Department plans to eliminate their squadrons, Guardsmen from the three squadrons to be deactivated by October 1966 have been in the forefront of the volunteers for the extra missions.

In five years the Air Guard transport crews have flown more than 39 million miles without a fatal accident. They've carried more than 275,000 passengers and 57,999 tons of cargo, of which some 32,449 tons were flown for the Military Airlift Command.

That's a hefty record for part-time air crews. In light of such a demonstrated capability, no wonder Air Guardsmen and Air Reservists are shocked by word that many of their units are being programmed out. ■

Veterans of Foreign Wars 1966 Department Conventions

ALABAMA—Montgomery	June 24-26
ALASKA—Kodiak	June 19-22
ARIZONA—Nogales	June 10-12
ARKANSAS—Hot Springs	June 17-19
CALIFORNIA—San Diego	June 25-30
COLORADO—Grand Junction	June 15-18
CONNECTICUT—Hartford	June 10-12
DELAWARE—Rehoboth Beach	June 3-5
DIST. OF COLUMBIA—Washington D.C.	June 23-25
FLORIDA—Daytona Beach	June 23-26
GEORGIA—Augusta	June 24-26
HAWAII—Honolulu	June 8-11
IDAHO—Coeur d'Alene	June 15-18
ILLINOIS—Peoria	June 24-26
INDIANA—Indianapolis	June 23-26
IOWA—Des Moines	June 24-26
KANSAS—Salina	June 10-12
KENTUCKY—Owensboro	June 23-26
LOUISIANA—Alexandria	June 17-19
MAINE—Waterville	June 24-26
MARYLAND—Salisbury	June 23-26
MASSACHUSETTS—Boston	June 24-26
MICHIGAN—Grand Rapids	June 24-27
MINNESOTA—Mankato	June 16-18
MISSISSIPPI—Jackson	June 24-26
MISSOURI—Jefferson City	June 24-26
MONTANA—Butte	June 9-11
NEBRASKA—Hastings	June 17-19
NEVADA—Crystal Bay	June 23-26
NEW HAMPSHIRE—Laconia	June 10-12
NEW JERSEY—Wildwood	June 22-25
NEW MEXICO—Clovis	June 23-26
NEW YORK—Rochester	June 23-25
NORTH CAROLINA—Durham	June 9-12
NORTH DAKOTA—Jamestown	June 3-5
OHIO—Cleveland	June 23-26
OKLAHOMA—Oklahoma City	June 23-26
OREGON—Astoria	June 23-25
PANAMA CANAL ZONE—Ancon	June 4-5
PENNSYLVANIA—Harrisburg	July 13-16
RHODE ISLAND—Newport	June 23-27
SOUTH CAROLINA—Columbia	June 10-12
SOUTH DAKOTA—Yankton	June 12-14
TENNESSEE—Nashville	June 24-26
TEXAS—Houston	July 1-3
UTAH—Price	June 17-19
VERMONT—Burlington	June 3-5
VIRGINIA—Richmond	June 16-19
WASHINGTON—Yakima	June 15-18
WEST VIRGINIA—Parkersburg	June 16-19
WISCONSIN—Janesville	June 23-25
WYOMING—Sheridan	June 3-5



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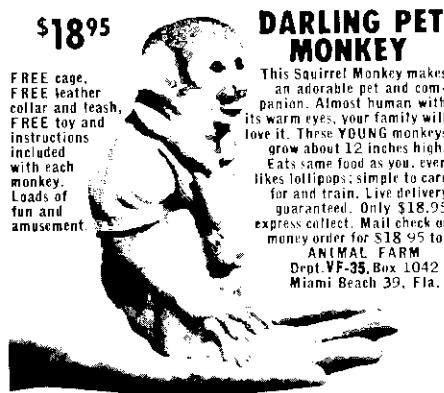
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1st Armd. Div.—Aug. 18-20, Sheraton-Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis, Mo.—Emil Schneider, 852 Madison, Edwardsville, Ill.

3rd Cav. Gp., 3rd & 43rd Sqdns.—Sept. 30-Oct. 2, Fort Des Moines Hotel, Des Moines, Ia.—J. O. Howard, Shenandoah, Ia. 51601.

4th Reg., Co. M (WWI)—June, Yankton, S.D.—John F. Brown, 6500 Old Chesterbrook Rd., McLean, Va. 22101.

6th Army, Hq. Co. & Dets.—June 17-19, Houston, Texas.—George Mullen, 518 Park, Baytown, Texas 77520.

6th Cav. Reg.—June 17-19, Read House & New Motor Inn, Chattanooga, Tenn.—John A. Everett, Box 716, Virginia, Minn. 55792.

7th Armd. Div.—Aug. 11-13, Jung Hotel, New Orleans, La.—John Reeks, 4521 Bonita Dr., New Orleans, La. 70126.

XIII Corps—July 29-31, Penn-Sheraton Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa.—G. M. Zins, 1465 Beulah Rd., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15235.

17th AB Div.—Aug. 12-14, Somersett Hotel, Boston, Mass.—Vic Mittleman, 139 W. Plumstead Ave., Lansdowne, Pa.

21st Engr. (Avn.) Reg.—Sept. 3-4, Washington, D. C.—Richard H. Selak, 1070 Kelly Dr., York, Pa.

21st Sv. Gp., 5th Air Force—Those interested write Clyde Wiederkehr, Star Route, Del Norte, Colo.

26th Div.—June 30-July 2, Hotel America, Hartford, Conn.—A. J. Mantenuito, 61 Exeter St., Boston, Mass. 02116.

52nd Engr. (WWI)—Sept. 8-11, Hotel Orlando, Decatur, Ill.—O. C. Lamb, 2045 N. Union St., Decatur, Ill.

56th Reg., C.A.C. (WWI)—Sept. 4, Norwalk, Conn.—Archibald Merriam, 16 Bayview Ave., South Norwalk, Conn. 06854.

66th Arty CAC (WWI)—July 17, Rehoboth, Mass.—George A. Duval, Box 303, Woonsocket, R. I. 02895.

77th FA (631st FA), 2nd Bn.—July 29-31, Legion Hall, Corsicana, Texas.—Jim Collins, N.W. Apts. 3A, Corsicana, Texas 75110.

82nd Chem. Mtr. Bn., Co. C—Those interested write Douglas Sampia, 120 S. Parish, Jackson, Miss.

85th Ord Co. (HM Tank)—July 1-4, Plainville, Conn.—R. B. Brown, 28 Birch Tree Rd., Plainville, Conn.

87th Field Hosp.—June 17-19, Detroit, Mich.—Joseph Kilanski, 38870 Chase, Romulus, Mich. 48174.

89th Cav. Rcn. Sqdn.—July 15-17, Sherman House, Chicago, Ill.—Ken Large, 715 E. 17th St., Topeka, Kans.

91st Chem. Mortar Co.—Sept. 3-4, Sunset Motel, Walnut, Ill.—Rodney D. Jacobson, Route 4, Oskaloosa, Ia. 52577.

95th Div.—Aug. 12-14, Netherland Hilton Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio.—Theodore S. Nelson, Box 1274, Chicago 90, Ill.

98th CA, Btry. A—July 2—Charles Aslanian, 42 Clark St., Huntington, N.Y.

105th AAA AW Bn.—June 23-25, Beacon Motor Hotel, Nags Head, N.C.—R. E. Bagley, Jr., Sunbury, N.C.

114th Gen. Hosp. (WWII)—Sept. 3-5, Host Motel, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—Edward Machinist, 66 W. Dorrance St., Kingston, Pa.

115th Reg. Co. A—June 18-19, Holiday Inn, Johnston, Pa.—John Hart, Route 1, Box 49, Johnston, Pa. 15906.

123rd Maint. Bn., Co. C—July 8-10, Walnut Valley, Rogers, Ark.—Orville Schell, Route 1, Box 166, Rogers, Ark.

135th Med. Reg.—Aug. 13-14, St. Norbert College, West De Pere, Wisc.—John K. Hoering, 825 E. Glendale Ave., Appleton, Wisc. 54911.

136th Inf., Med. Det.—If interested, write Joseph F. Stula, 10543 Bensley Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60617.

142nd Inf., Co. L—Aug. 5-7, Breckenridge, Texas.—Maurice E. Baggett, Box 1402, Breckenridge, Texas.

143rd AAA Gun Bn.—July 17, Sunset Park, Marlboro, Ohio.—Emory V. Turner, 1017 Frederick St., Cumberland, Md.

155th Stat. Hosp.—June 17-19, Marion, S.D.—Albert E. Fenzl, Box 81, Marion, S.D. 57043.

181st and 947th FA Bn.—Aug. 14, Carondelet Park, St. Louis, Mo.—Louis Albright, 713 Liberty St., Ripon, Wisc.

185th Reg., Anti-Tank Co.—July 23-24, Madison, Wisc.—Maurice Phelps, Route 1, Box 169, Sun Prairie, Wisc.

261st Sep. CA Bn.—Late 1966—Ralph E. German, 719 W. Ivy Dr., Seaford, Dela. 19973.

266th FA Bn.—July 29-31—Gus Seftas, 32 Petrak St., Charleroi, Pa. 15022.

301st Sig. Bn.—Aug. 13-14, Webster Hall Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa.—Joseph J. DiCaro, 1008 Third Ave., Brackenridge, Pa.

304th Ord. Reg. (B)—2nd Bn.—Aug. 26-27, Sheraton Motor Inn, Syracuse, N. Y.—John F. Deep, 1218 West St., Utica, N. Y. 13501.

304th Ord. Reg., 612th OBAM Bn.—May 28-30, Hotel Lenox, Boston, Mass.—Charles F. Sullivan, 339 Auburn St., Auburndale, Mass. 02166.

310th Engr. Bn., Co. C—Aug. 5-7, Chicago, Ill.—John Klinsky, MC 19, Westfield Rd., East Liverpool, Ohio.

310th Engr. (WWI)—May 28-30, Pick-Fort Shelby Hotel, Detroit, Mich.—Thomas Daly, 731 S. Gulley Rd., Dearborn, Mich. 48125.

313th Reg.—July 29-31, Sheraton Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.—George Kashmar, 840 E. Philadelphia Ave., Youngstown, Ohio 44502.

325th Ftr. Gp.—June 24-26, Treadway Inn, Niagara Falls, N. Y.—S. L. Wilson, Zelienople, Pa. 16063.

332nd Amb. Co. (WWI)—June 18-19, Sheraton Hotel, Akron, Ohio.—Oscar W. Case, 1506 Huguelet St., Akron, Ohio 44305.

339th Inf.—Aug. 5-7, Chicago, Ill.—Charles C. Isely, Jr., Box 396, Colombia, Mo.

348th Engr. Combat Bn.—Aug. 20-21, Indianapolis, Ind.—Ralph Amrine, 2618 E. 10th St., Anderson, Ind. 46012.

363rd Bn., 201st Port Co.—June 10-12, Penn-Sheraton Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa.—Richard Hiles, Route 3, Sugar Grove, Pa. 16350.

393rd Reg., Cannon Co.—June—E. H. Starry, 1629 California St., McKeesport, Pa. 15131.

467th Bomb Gp.—June 24-26, Dayton, Ohio.—Adam Soccio, 357 Midland Ave., Garfield, N.J. 07026.

471st Amb. Co.—May 28-30, Legion Hall, 4610 Shelbyville Rd., Louisville, Ky.—Joe Tong, Route 1, Box 309, Crestwood, Ky. 40014.

483rd AAA AW Bn.—June 25-26, Lake Rhea, Attalla, Ala.—Billy J. McGee, 2414 Rainbow Dr., Gadsden, Ala. 35901.

503rd Reg. Combat Team—July 15-16, Town House, Cedar Rapids, Ia.—Wilbur Eggert, Bennett, Ia.

506th Engr., Lt. Pontoon Co.—June 17-19, LaCrosse, Wisc.—Eugene Barutha, 930 Oak St., Neenah, Wisc.

513th Parachute Inf., Co. G—Aug. 12-14, Somerset Hotel, Boston, Mass.—William F. Whipple, Route 1, Waterloo Rd., Ellicott City, Md. 21043.

521st MP Bn.—June 18, Benton Harbor, Mich.—Joseph Reicks, Watervliet, Mich.

591st Engr. Combat Gp., Hqs. & Hqs. Co.—If interested, write Everett Mills, Box 71, Sublette, Kans. 67877.

593-594-595th Amb. Co.—July 30-31, Elks Club, Kenosha, Wisc.—Carl Schnuckel, 7905 Green Bay Rd., Kenosha, Wisc. 53140.

609th TD Bn.—September, Philadelphia, Pa.—Don A. Vogt, Box 142, Geneva, N. Y. 14456.

611th OBAM Bn.—Aug. 26-27, Sheraton Motor Inn, Syracuse, N. Y. 13201.—John F. Deep, 1218 West St., Utica, N. Y. 13501.

724th Ord. LMC—Aug. 18-20, Wakeeney, Kans.—Marvin F. Ellwood, 2710 16th Ave., Marion, Ia. 52302.

753rd Ry. Shop Bn.—June 18-19, Bucyrus, Ohio.—Ray Tittle, Route 1, Huron, Ohio 44839.

791st QM Truck Co.—July 1-4, Holiday Inn, Lincoln, Neb.

797th AAA Bn.—Those interested, write Harold Genandt, Box 134, Lanark, Ill.

910th FA—Aug. 5-7, Chicago, Ill.—William McCall, Brown Rd., Rye, N. Y.

938th FA (166th FA Bn.)—May 21—William Seeger, Jr., 25 Greentree Lane, Malvern, Pa.

1127th & 1400rd MPS—July 14-17, Sheraton-Lincoln Hotel, Indianapolis, Ind.—Frank Farina, 1001 Serrill Ave., Yeadon, Pa.

Evac. Hosp. 13 (WWI)—Sept. 3-5, Cincinnati, Ohio.—Leo J. Bell, 808 Ash St., Toledo, Ohio 43611.

NAVY

LST 177—If interested write Vincent Mongiello, 201 W. Venango St., Mercer, Pa. 16137.

Lion 4, Naval Supply Depot 3205 MANUS Admiralty Islands—Aug. 13-14, Omaha, Neb.—F. C. Gardner, 678 W. 23rd St., San Pedro, Calif. 90731.

USS Briareus (AR-12)—June 17-19, Hotel Jefferson, Atlantic City, N. J.—Robert H. Amos, Box 660, Wayne, N. J. 07471.

USS Callaway (APA-35)—Aug. 5-7, Sheraton Chicago Hotel, Chicago, Ill.—George L. Hendrickson, 1902 74th Ct. N., Elmwood Park, Ill.

USS Gannet—If interested in 1967 reunion, write R. H. Kirchoff, 723 Keystone St., Croydon, Pa.

USS LCS (L) 14—May 7-8, Towne House Motel, Dearborn, Mich.—Galen Aurand, 22703 Ridgeway, St. Clair Shores, Mich. 48080.

USS Louisville—July 22-23, Chicago, Ill.—S. D. Martinson, 3238 N. Schultz Dr., Lansing, Ill. 60438.

U. S. Naval Gp. China (SACO)—June 24-26, Statler-Hilton Hotel, Dallas, Texas.—Robert M. Sinks, Box 18154, Dallas, Texas 75218.