

FIRST BN, 3RD MARINES  
1968-69

1-11-90

DEAR *Charley*:

THANK YOU FOR EXPRESSING INTEREST IN HELPING ORGANIZE A REUNION OF THE FIRST BATTALION, THIRD MARINE REGIMENT, IN NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE DURING JULY 1990.

I COMPLIMENT YOU ON YOUR DECISIVENESS - AFTER ALL, ITS OVER 20 YEARS AND IT'S TIME.

THUS FAR, I POSSESS ONLY A HANDFUL OF NAMES AND ADDRESSES. I'M OPTIMISTIC THAT AS THE 1/3 REUNION ADVERTISING GOES WE WILL INCREASE OUR NUMBERS. IF YOU HAVE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF OLD SHIPMATES, I WOULD APPRECIATE A COPY. UPON RECEIPT, I WILL MAKE CONTACT.

I HAVE RECENTLY LEARNED THAT OUR BATTALION COMMANDER, LT COL DAVE HERRON IS NOW RETIRED AND RESIDES IN THE CINCINNATI AREA (I'M GETTING HIS MAILING ADDRESS). OUR FORMER EXO, MAJOR WILLIAM ETNYRE IS NOW LT GEN ETNYRE, THE CG OF THE COMBAT DEVELOPMENT COMMAND AT QUANTICO, VA. OBVIOUSLY, GENERAL ETNYRE IS THE MOST SUCCESSFUL OF ALL THE 1/3 MARINES THAT I SERVED WITH. UNFORTUNATELY, OUR OLD S-3 OFFICER, MAJOR GEORGE WELSH DIED OF A HEART ATTACK SOME YEARS BACK.

THE PRESENT PLAN IS SIMPLY THIS - I'M ASKING ALL INTERESTED PERSONS TO JOIN THE THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION - MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE \$15. BY DOING SO, WE KEEP IN TOUCH AND WILL HAVE FORMER 1/3 MEMBERS ON RECORD FOR CONTROL PURPOSES - OTHERWISE WE HAVE A PROBLEM. THE ASSOCIATION IS A GOOD ONE AND CONDUCTS AN ANNUAL FAMILY REUNION EACH YEAR. IN 1991, THEY MEET IN DENVER; 1992, SAN DIEGO AND 1993, WASHINGTON, DC.

I'LL CONTINUE TO ADVERTISE TO REACH AS MANY FORMER MEMBERS AS POSSIBLE - FORMER BATTALION MEMBERS INCLUDE ATTACHED PERSONNEL, I.E., CORPSMAN, NGF, HST, FIRING BATTERIES, AND THE LIKE. I'LL CONTINUE TO BE THE ORGANIZER FOR THIS UNLESS YOU HAVE A BETTER IDEA, THEN I'LL STEP ASIDE AND SUPPORT YOU.

AROUND THE COUNTRY THERE ARE MANY SMALL UNIT REUNIONS TAKING PLACE EACH YEAR. THEY STARTED THE SAME WAY WE ARE - FROM SCRATCH. BECAUSE OF THE FEDERAL PRIVACY LAWS, HQMC CANNOT HELP US LOCATE FORMER 1/3 MARINES BY FURNISHING OLD ADDRESSES - WE HAVE TO SOLVE THAT PROBLEM AND I'LL BE FRANK, IT'S NOT EASY. THE RECORDS BRANCH OF HQMC HAS ALREADY FURNISHED ME WITH A COPY OF THE MONTHLY PERSONNEL ROSTER OF 1/3 (AUGUST 1969). I HAVE REQUESTED COPIES OF THE LETTER COMPANIES AND EXPECT TO RECEIVE THEM SHORTLY. (*I have all now*).

AS FOR MYSELF, I RETIRED IN AUGUST 1975 AFTER A FULL CAREER, OFF THE "GRINDER" AT TBS, QUANTICO. I NEVER ENTERED THE WORK FORCE AFTER RETIREMENT OTHER THAN VOLUNTEER WORK. SINCE MY WIFE, MARY JANE IS STILL IN THE WORK

PG. 2.

AND I SUPPORT HER AS A "DOMESTIC ENGINEER". MJ IS A CIVIL SERVANT IN THE PROMOTION BRANCH, HQMC WITH OVER 40 YEARS SERVICE. SHE IS AS MUCH A MARINE AS I AM. HEALTH-WISE, I GUESS I COULD RECLIMB DONG HA MOUNTAIN IF COAXED.

IN CLOSING, I CAN'T SPEAK HIGHLY ENOUGH OF THE 1/3 MARINES THAT I SERVED WITH. BEING A THREE WAR MARINE, I SINCERELY BELIEVE THEY WERE THE BEST EVER TO WEAR THE UNIFORM.

UNTIL LATER, MY BEST TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. SEMPER FI!

WITH WARM BEST WISHES,



BILL KRUEGER  
H&SCo, 1/3

PS: TO REMIND: I NEED NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ANY OLD SHIPMATES YOU MAY HAVE.....

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO CONTACT ME.



THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASS'N,  
BILL KRUEGER, MEMBERSHIPS

SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA 22150



MR. CHARLES R. ANDERSON  
SPRINGFIELD, VA

