

★ GUADALCANAL

★ NORTHERN SOLOMONS

★ LEYTE

★ SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

★ VIETNAM



FOUNDED 1945

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 1986

DEDICATED AS A LIVING MEMORIAL TO ALL VETERANS OF THE AMERICAL DIVISION

Editor in Chief; Jim Buckle

Vietnam Editor; Ron Ward

Published Bi-Monthly

THE AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION - P.O. BOX 1381, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02104



COLONEL ROBERT W. CARBRAY

WORLD WAR II

KOREA

VIETNAM

1986

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MONTHLY A.D.V.A. MEETINGS

November 19, 1986
8:00 P.M.

National Guard Armory

Victory Road Dorchester, Mass
NOTE: This is the third Wednesday
[REDACTED]

December -- No Meeting

January 14, 1987
1:00 P.M.

National Guard Armory

Victory Road Dorchester, Mass
NOTE: This is an afternoon meeting
[REDACTED]

February 11, 1987
1:00 P.M.

National Guard Armory

Victory Road Dorchester, Mass
NOTE: This is an afternoon meeting
[REDACTED]

1987

1986 NATIONAL APPOINTED OFFICERS 1987

ADJUTANT
William L. Dunphy
[REDACTED]
West Roxbury, Mass.
02132

HISTORIAN
Ralph T. Noonan
[REDACTED]
Hyannis, Mass.
02601

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Open

SERGEANT-at-ARMS
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[REDACTED]
West Brookfield, Mass.
01585

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN
Rev. John S. Franklin
[REDACTED]
East Wareham, Mass.
02538

CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN
Rev. Paul A. Chaisson
[REDACTED]
Boston, Mass.
02117

AIDE-de-CAMP
Dudley Farquhar
[REDACTED]
Merrimac, Mass.
01860

Ralph A. Serino
[REDACTED]
East Boston, Mass.

SERVICE OFFICER
Joseph F. Marrota
[REDACTED]
Bourne, Mass.
02532

PUBLIC RELATIONS
Frank G. Brown
[REDACTED]
Brookline, MA
02164
Paul G. Donelan
[REDACTED]
Plymouth, MA
02360

VIETNAM COORDINATOR
Oscar Patterson III
[REDACTED]
Fayetteville, NC
28304

CHAPTER COORDINATOR
William L. Dunphy
[REDACTED]
West Roxbury, MA
02132

STATE ADJUTANT
Bernard C. Chase
[REDACTED]
So. Yarmouth, MA
02664

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Col. Alan P. Thayer
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Vietnam EDITOR
Ron Ward
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St. Louis, MO
63123

Vietnam Vets Network

By Ron Ward - Vietnam News Editor

This is the sixth in a series of Medal of Honor recipients.

Shea, Daniel John (K.I.A.)

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Army, Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry, 196th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. Place and date: Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam, 14 May 1968. Entered service at: New Haven, Conn. Born: 29 January 1947, Norwalk, Conn. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Pfc. Shea, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, distinguished himself while serving as a medical aidman with Company C, 3d Battalion, during a combat patrol mission. As the lead platoon of the company was crossing a rice paddy, a large enemy force in ambush positions opened fire with mortars, grenades and automatic weapons. Under heavy crossfire from 3 sides, the platoon withdrew to a small island in the paddy to establish a defensive perimeter. Pfc. Shea, seeing that a number of his comrades had fallen in the initial hail of fire, dashed from the defensive position to assist the wounded. With complete disregard for his safety and braving the intense hostile fire sweeping the open rice paddy, Pfc. Shea made 4 trips to tend wounded soldiers and to carry them to the safety of the platoon position. Seeing a fifth wounded comrade directly in front of one of the enemy strongpoints, Pfc. Shea ran to his assistance. As he reached the wounded man, Pfc. Shea was grievously wounded. Disregarding his welfare, Pfc. Shea tended his wounded comrade and began to move him back to the safety of the defensive perimeter. As he neared the platoon position, Pfc. Shea was mortally wounded by a burst of enemy fire. By his heroic actions Pfc. Shea saved the lives of several of his fellow soldiers. Pfc. Shea's gallantry in action at the cost of his life were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

ATTENTION

Please send all materiel for the Newsletter directly to the Editors.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

James C Buckle

Wakefield, Mass.
01880

VIETNAM EDITOR

Ron Ward

St. Louis, MO
63123

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES ?

1452 NL 215534
Dear Americal Vets;

Veterans Day is fast approaching and its time for us all to start making plans to attend the ceremonies at the "Wall" in Washington. Your Vietnam Editor has made arrangements for a hospitality room at the Hotel Washington on Monday, November 10th. Thats the day before the official holiday on Tuesday. Those of you that attended "Salute II" a few years ago will recall that the Hotel Washington was the Army "LZ" for the event and we were all made to feel welcome while staying there. I selected that hotel on that basis along with the fact that the hotel is within walking distance of the Vietnam War Memorial. Ill be in town starting on Saturday, November 8th. so any of you arriving by that date be sure to stop by and leave a message or look me up in the Monument area. Ill be bringing the Americal Flag so just look for the colors when at the "Wall". Well want to lay a wreath with the Americal insignia at the monument so Ill need some interested vets to participate in that as a group. See me if you would like to carry the flags or be with us on Tuesday for that one. The more men we have, the more impressive the ceremony. The "Wall" is a crowded place on Veterans Day with thousands of Vietnam vets, their families, and the news media is constantly on hand. Lets show them that we were together then and were together now.

Ive had a lot of long distance phone calls lately from Americal vets who will be travelling to Washington from far-away towns with hopes that they might see some buddies from Nam and what better place is there for a reunion? This will be my fourth year in a row that Ive been to the monument for Veterans Day and I intend to be there again next year. Its the only place for a Nam vet to be on November 11th.

Even though our hospitality room will be open but one day and night, well be using the Hotel Washington as our "LZ" to get together. Ill arrange for any messages concerning Americal vets to be accepted at the hotel desk and transferred to me.

For you men who have yet to visit the "Wall", be sure to display a unit insignia somewhere on your clothing while in town. If you want to meet other Americal vets on the street this certainly does help. If youre in need of an Americal, 198th, 196th or 11th Infantry Brigade patch, get in touch with me. I dont have a ready supply, but I know where we can obtain them.

The Hotel Washington is on Pennsylvania Avenue at 15th. Phone [REDACTED] See you there.

Ron Ward

ATTENTION ALL FORMER MEMBERS OF THE 196th L. I. B.

196th Light Infantry Brigade; A book about the 196th has been commissioned for the Bantam Books series, The Illustrated History of the Vietnam War. The author is F. Clifton Berry Jr., who served in the 196th in 1967-68. Berry would like to include men's personal experiences and their own photographs in the book. Veterans of the 196th who are interested in participating are invited to write Berry. His address:

F. Clifton Berry Jr.
FCB Associates

1101 [REDACTED]
Washington, DC 20005

Any photos veterans wish to send will be carefully handled and returned to the owners.

All responses are appreciated and will be answered promptly.

General Orders Number 768, dated March 1971, DA, Headquarters, U.S. Army Vietnam

The 196TH INFANTRY BRIGADE, 23D INFANTRY DIVISION (AMERICAL) and its assigned and attached units distinguished themselves through extraordinary heroism from Aug. 11 1969 to Aug. 31 1969 in Quang Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam. During the cited period unit personnel repeatedly engaged two well-trained and well-equipped enemy regiments in fierce, close fighting near the junction of Hiep Duc and Song Chang Valleys. Seizing the initiative, the members of the 196TH BRIGADE frequently assaulted strongly fortified positions and successfully inflicted heavy casualties upon the enemy at every encounter. Through their great personal fortitude, and valorous efforts, the officers and men of the brigade drove the enemy from his sanctuaries, uncovered numerous caches of weapons and ammunition, and halted enemy attempts to mass troops in the area for the purpose of launching large-scale attacks upon the civilian populace. Demonstrating gallant fighting spirit, the unit destroyed the combat effectiveness of the 2d North Vietnamese Army Division, thus immeasurably advancing the Free World military effort in the Republic of Vietnam. The extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty displayed by the members of the 196TH INFANTRY BRIGADE are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit upon themselves, their unit and the Armed Forces of the United States.

FOR THE COMMANDER

CHARLES M. GETTYS
MAJOR GENERAL, USA
CHIEF OF STAFF

For you men who served in the 196th during the above time period and weren't aware of the "big picture" while you were busy patrolling the bush, ambushing, being ambushed, and probably stepping on an occasional land-mine, the above citation authorizes you to pin a Valorous Unit Award on your uniform, or stow it away in that handy cigar-box that many of us keep those shiny momentos from Nam. The South Vietnamese Government has also awarded you the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm Device.

A loyal ADVA member, Rolly Castranova, writes in to let us know about a new Vietnam memorial that is underway in the State of Massachusetts. The planned site is the Boston Common, the oldest public park in the United States, and the location of the historic Freedom Trail. The estimated cost of the memorial is \$650,000.00.

From 1959-1975 over 80,000 men and women from his State answered the call to duty in South-East Asia with approximately 1300 of them killed in action. 59 men are listed as still missing.

Rolly's group, The Boston Vietnam Veterans Association is raising funds from the business community as well as private contributors. They will publish a hard-bound Memorial Book which will contain the pictures and biographies of all these heroes as well as advertisements from their sponsors. The book will be given to the families of the dead, dignitaries in attendance, as well as anyone who places an ad. Advertisement prices;

Full page \$850.00 Half page \$500.00

1/3 page \$375.00 1/4 page \$275.00

1/6 page \$175.00 Business Card \$95.00

As a non-profit veterans organization, any help is therefore tax-deductible. Donations can be sent to them at 139 Brighton Avenue Suite # 9 Allston, Massachusetts 02134

Mr. Dunphy;

Last year I came out of the closet and started letting everybody know that I'm a Nam Viet, and proud of it.

I met Ron Ward at the wall last Veteran's Day and he signed me up. Thanks Ron!

Now it's time to take another step. I want to be a dues paid Life Member. I'll be a proud Americal Vet for the rest of my life anyway, so it makes sense.

Ron sent me a roster but I didn't find anybody I served with. I was with Bravo Co. and Recon in the 1/52, 198 LIB in 1968-69. I sure would like to hear from some of the guys I served with.

Write to: **Frank Schulgen**
[REDACTED]
Magnolia, TX 77355

Dear A.D.V.A.

I'm sorry for being so tardy in keeping up with my dues. I was out of state most of the last year and many things got behind. Enclosed is \$12.00 cash to clear things up. I appreciate the Newsletter very much. You guys do a great job!

One thing I would like even more is that when V.N. vets join the association that you would list their company, battalion, and year they were in country in addition to just their brigade. Names, after so many years get hard to recall, units and dates would help to know for sure if some of the V.N. vets members are men I served with.

I was a squad leader, Sgt. Mike Schaas, Bravo 1/3, 1/52 Inf 198th LIB. I was wounded at Dragon Valley west of Tam Ky June 1968.

My company had some very serious things happen at that time and because I was evacuated I never had a chance to really get the whole story, or see all the guys again. Except for a few when I was brought back to V.N. from the hospital at Ft. Ord. I would just like to say that I think about all of you often. I hope continually that all of you are doing okay! I remember your faces. I seem to look for them wherever I go. I'm proud to have served with you, "Goldman's Angels". Everything quiet here, 1/3 out.

Thanks,

Mike Schaas
[REDACTED]
Homer, Alaska
99603

Hope you hear from some of your buddies Mike. Will try to follow through with your suggestion in future Newsletters. Editor

RON WARD will be in Washington D.C. on Veterans Day November 11, 1986
Watch for the Americal banner

America Newsletter
Boston, Mass.

I am a new member of the Americal Division Veterans Association and I think my name was listed in the July and August issue of the Newsletter with a couple of errors. I am Charles P. King, not Charles F. King and I was with the 196th LIB not the 198th LIB. Maybe the entry was for some other Charles King in the Kansas City area and not meant to be me. If so, I'm sorry.

I would appreciate knowing if there are any other members out there who served with F Troop, 17th Cav., 196th LIB in VN around 1967 & 1968. Of particular interest to me is what happened to S/SG Dillard G. Rye (sp?). There was a song composed by another SSG about F Troop 17th Cav. sometime just after the move from Tay Ninh to Chu Lai and sung to the tune of "The Green Berets" which I would like to get a copy of.

Charles P. King

Kansas City, MO 64119

Ed. The two Charles Kings are the one and the same. Sorry about the error but the candle burns low some nights when I am typing the Newsletter and my eyes do not always see what my fingers are typing. Your name and unit are correct in the official records. Hope you locate your old buddies.

Sir;

Enclosed please find my application for membership, along with \$10.00 first year dues.

I served in Vietnam but not with the Americal. The reason that I would like to join is that my father served with the Americal in World War II, landing first in Australia, thence to Guadalcanal, New Caledonia and so on. Though he is, thank God, still living and healthy, and is closing out a productive career, he is not one to talk much about WW II, or his duty in the South Pacific. He saw, and personally experienced, too much living Hell, and probably has a case of what we now call PTSD, which he's lived with for all of these years.

In any event, through your newsletter I'd like to try and contact anyone who served with my Father, and still might remember him. Between my father and myself, neither one of us can get on the subject of war without getting extremely upset, yet I'd still like to know more.

Years ago with my mother's concurrence, I purchased the Americal History for my father, not knowing whether he'd be able to, or want to, read through it. He did, and apparently without excessive negative grief.

Guess the point has been made. In any case, please advise associate dues have increased and if you have any suggestions as to how I might find out more about my father's tour of duty. Somehow, somehow it means a lot to him, but his experiences are, quite frankly, too grim for him to want to talk about it much. I will underscore the fact that he has been successful in his post-army occupation, and has always been

Continued next column

Continued

able to surmount the stress and underlying torment of PTSD, even though this has not been an easy task. It is only after having gone to Vietnam, that U was able to clearly understand all this.

Thanking you for your attention, I remain.

Yours Truly,
Bill Laurie

Mesa, AZ, 85201

Thanks Bill. You are now signed up as an Associate Member. Hope that some of our members out there will remember your Dad and drop you a line. It might help if they knew what unit your father was in.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

*Ltc. Francis X. Brennan 198th LIB Nashua, NH	*Bernard A. Sobjak 11th LIB Bally PA
Robert S. Dokton 247th FA Malden, MA	*Thomas Wilson 196th LIB Redondo Beach, CA
Clifton T. Griffin 221st FA Colquitt, GA	Lawrence T. Arone 101st Quartermaster Billerica, MA
Glen S. Hamrick 245th FA Belmont, NC	George J. Dube 221st FA Salem, MA
Warner B. Huck 132nd Inf Cherry Hill, NJ	Anton A. Hannel 164th Inf San Carlos, CA
James S. Key 247th FA Pilot Mountain, NC	*William M. Harris 196th LIB Honolulu, HI
Jacob F. Krok 121st Med Bn Simpson, PA	Harry B. Milne 247th FA Turtle Creek, PA
Christopher MacFadden 182nd Inf Key West, FL	Benjamin L. O'Neil 246th FA Morehead, NC
Elmer E. Mitchell (Ltc Ret) 182nd Inf Weston, MA	Victor A. Witkosky 101st Med Regt Worcester, MA
*Robert G. Onyon 196th LIB Santa Ana, CA	* Vietnam Veteran
Arthur H. Sagan 57th Eng W Yarmouth, MA	SUMMARY
*Frank L. Schulgen 198th LIB Magnolia, TX	533 Life Members (July -Aug) -3 Life Members Deceased +23 Life Members
Bruce D. Sexton 132nd Inf Inver Grove Heights, MN	553 Life Members (Sept-Oct) 475 WWII 70 Vietnam 8 Associates
Charles T. Sizemore (Cpt Ret) 11th LIB Dayton, KY	

NEW MEMBERS

Hecoor A. Meunier
Springfield, MA
Div Ord
#William L. Dunphy

*Richard Millisman
Tekonske, MI
188th LIB
#James, A. Dalton

Leo Renard
Omaha, Neb.
182nd Inf
#Bernie Chase

Bernard M. Steller
Morron Grove, IL
132nd Inf
#Frederick C. Hitzman

John F. Sustar
Cleveland, OH
182nd Inf
#Bernie Chase

Hyman Tillem
Tucson, AZ
247th FA
#Self

*Joseph W. Zube
Greenville, PA
523rd Sig
#Robert T. Hock

Bennie a. Wauneka
Second Meas, AZ
182nd Inf
#Bernie Chase

George S. Vallinch
Council Bluffs, Iowa
182nd Inf
#Bernie Chase

*Arthur J. Boucher
Hoffman Estates, IL
39th End
Ron Ward

*Burton LaMonte
Chicago, IL
174th Avv
#Ron Ward

Victor L. Crowder
Ojai, CA
182nd Inf
#Bernie Chase

*Dan C. Dinklage
Humble, TX
196th LIB
#Ron Ward

Gerard J. Dupuis
Gardner, MA
182nd Inf
#Emery Boubreau

*Ronald E. Gleason
N. Chelmsford, MA
196th LIB
#Patrick Gleason

*Bill Laurie
Mesa, AZ
Associate
#Dave Greiger

Sandra Leary
Malden, MA
Associate
#Paul I Trefry Jr.

HAVE YOU SIGNED
UP A NEW
MEMBER ?

* Thomas L. Fear
Newton, IL
196th LIB
#James Highland

*Jack Hass
Swedesboro, NJ
198th LIB
#William L. Dunphy

*Charles T. Manchester
Ft. Worth, TX
198th LIB
#Dave Greiger

Otis J. Mailhot
Sudbury, MA
221st FA
#Len Oliver

*Joseph P. Mainike
Arkington Hgts., IL
51st Inf
#Ron Ward

*Wayne Yarbrough
Bayonne, NJ
11th LIB
#Jerry Hughes

*George A. DeBoer
New York
11th LIB
#Cpt James A. O'Brien

*Jerry Donnellan
Nanuet, NY
196th LIB
#Self

*Robert F. Loud
Dorchester, MA
11th LIB
#John Nightingale

Frank M. Suchenicz
Holyoke, MA
182nd Inf
#Alphonse A. Hudon

Elmer C. Koehler
Spring Valley, IL
132nd Inf
#Herbert L. Murphy

* Vietnam Veteran
Sponsor

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

TAPS

Donald E. Thompson
Cicero, IL
121st Med
Life Member
June 30, 1986

Aldo Loranzini
Cudahy, WI
245th FA
May 30, 1986

Valentine L. Ciotti
Malden, MA
182nd Inf
June 17, 1986

Ralph T. Noonan (BG ret)
Hyannis, MA
101st QM
Charter Member Cape Cod Chap.
September 12, 1986

Louis J. Sapletal
Mendota Hgts. MN
164th Inf
July 24, 1986

Edward J. Quigley
Hollywood, FL
182nd Inf
Life Member
South East Chapter
September 8, 1986

Morton Hill
Florida
182nd Inf
Non-member

Kenneth Dery
Stoneham, MA
182nd Inf
Non-member



His Excellency
Michael S. Dukakis
Governor
of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
requests the honor of your presence
and the
Members of your Organization
at the
Thirty-Third Annual Observance
of
Veterans Day
Tuesday, November Eleventh
nineteen hundred and eighty-six
at ten o'clock
Hall of Flags
State House
Boston, Massachusetts

Commander's Message

I was very pleased with the large turnout at our annual clambake in front of our Museum on Fort Devens on September 6, 1986.

I was glad to meet with Lloyd Morrell, the Far West Regional Commander and Lawrence J. O'Boyle. Both couples travelled from California to enjoy the day with us. Lloyd tells me that plans for the National Convention, next year, in Reno are progressing.

Several donation to the Museum were made that day.

Fran Diorio and I opened the Museum on Friday September 12, 1986 for the R.A.D. event that was being held at Fort Devens. A good many of the R.A.D. group visited our Museum. We were congratulated for the time and effort that the Curators are giving to the Museum.

I would like to thank the Curators that are helping to make our Museum a success.

Kenneth R. Turner
National Commander

VETERAN'S DAY SERVICES - NATIONAL CEMETARY

On Sunday November 9, 1986 at 1:00 PM, Veteran's Day Services will be held at the National Cemetery, Camp Edwards, Bourne, Mass.

The Massachusetts National Guard Ceremonial Unit will lead the parade. This unit will include a fife and drum corp, a drill team and a horse mounted unit.

Coffee and doughnuts will be served at the Cemetery and Post 188 American Legion in Sandwich, Mass. invite on. I'll back to their Post after the ceremony.

General Robert Murphy will be the main speaker. Jack Williams, Channel 4 newscaster will be the Master of Ceremonies. Anyone wishing to participate in the short parade be at the starting point at 12:30 PM.

Dick Gallant, an Americal veteran, was once again elected Chairman, Joint Veterans Committee, National Cemetery of Massachusetts.

Bernie Chase
Americal Representative

***** CONVALESCING AT HOME *****

Rev. John S. Franklin
[REDACTED]
East Wareham, Mass.
02538

Edward A. Vieira
[REDACTED]
East Boston, Mass
02128
121 Med Band

How about a card or a phone call?

FAR WEST CHAPTER NEWS

Like "Willie" I am on the road again, so this will come to you in bits and pieces as the thoughts occur. Left California on August 10, and am now in Massachusetts. Still have a lot of miles ahead before returning the latter part of October.

Had a very enjoyable time at the Clambake at Fort Devens and had a chance to meet some of my old friends that I hadn't seen since WWII days. Almost all were "Redlegs" from the 221st FA Bn, plus a few others. Found interest running quite high for the Reno reunion in June of 1987. I expect a good group of Bay Staters to show up. Jim Flynn, an old railroader may be making arrangements for a special railroad car to be attached to AMTRAK, to be dropped off at Reno, and returned to Boston. Let him know of your interest.

Was also able to meet with a bunch of artillerymen in September at Hyannis VFW Hall, honoring Col. J. F.P. Hill, our 221st Bn. Commander, who had just retired after a distinguished Army career, including high positions in the Pentagon and Vietnam. We had a very pleasant reunion and relived some old times, including swapping tale with some of the "horse soldiers" I hadn't seen in years. For the uninitiated, the 221st FA descended from the old 110th Cav. Mass. National Guard.

Want to thank the A.D.V.A. Museum curators at Fort Devens for flying the California flag from the Museum staff, In honor of the Far West Chapter who I was representing. The members who have contributed so much time and materials for the Museum are to be congratulated. They have done a fine job and everyone should try and take it in, if possible.

My mail is slow in catching up with me, so if you are expecting something from me, just hang loose. I'll get to it as soon as possible. Some of my recent mail has had some interesting comments and as soon as I have a chance to sort things out in my mind and decide on a course of action, you can be assured the Far West Chapter will be right up front with some novel ideas. The sponsorship of a National Convention by a Chapter may only be the beginning. I need the support of all the members of the Far West Chapter for a great Convention at Reno and be assured, it will be worth your while.

See you at Santa Maria in November!

Lloyd Morrell
Far West
Region Commander

TO ALL OF MY FRIENDS

Hi Everybody;

Many thanks to all who signed the Get-Well card that I received while you were at the Convention. Nice to know that you were thinking about me.

I am still recuperating from the second operation I had late end of May.

Bill Leate

LET'S GET TOGETHER

CHAPTER NEWS

EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER

DC, DE, KY, NJ, NY, OH, PA, VA, WV

EASTERN REGIONAL COMMANDER

Robert T. Hock

Reading, PA

19601

Telephone [REDACTED]

FAR WEST CHAPTER

AK, AZ, N CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, OR, ND,
SD, UT, WA, WY

REGIONAL COMMANDER

Lloyd J. Morrell

Pleasant Hill, CA

94523

Telephone [REDACTED]

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

COMMANDER

Norman Mullen

Ferris, CA

94523

Telephone [REDACTED]

WILLIAM F. McGOLDRICK - CAPE COD CHAPTER

Plymouth & Wareham & South of Cape Cod Canal

COMMANDER

Bernard C. Chase

So. Yarmouth, Mass

02660

Telephone [REDACTED]

GREAT LAKES CHAPTER

REGIONAL COMMANDER

Herbert L. Murphy

MN

IL

Saginaw MI

WI

IN

48604

MI

Telephone [REDACTED]

SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

AL, FL, GA, NC, SC, TN

REGIONAL COMMANDER

E. A. Heartquist

Tarpon Springs, FL

33589

Telephone [REDACTED]

Adjutant's Note

DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES

As we reported in the July-August Newsletter about the new method of reporting DELINQUENT DUES NOTICES the following list of card numbers are the members who have not paid

Would you PLEASE take the time to open up your wallet and check your card number to see if you card is listed as overdue.

3rd NOTICE & FINAL

1986-1987 Dues Notices to expire Jan
1987 - Mailed January 1986

1197	1169	1168	534	1185	1172
1163	1175	1155	1143	1134	1120
1119	1106	1103	1086	1092	1081
1090	1069	1056	1058	1054	1041
1037	1035	1034	1025	1002	999
995	989	1006	987	985	984
979	966	952	948	946	943
941	937	934	949	932	921
913	907	904	925	918	884
		894	893		

The above group of card numbers will be removed from the Roster (30) days after this Newsletter is mailed. This could be your last Newsletter if you do not spend one minute of your time and check your card number.

If you are this late (9) months why not send in (\$12.00) for the next year.

2nd NOTICE

1986-1987 Dues Notices to expire May
1987 - Mailed May 1986

503	513	526	510	520	523	519
536	561	564	548	549	1151	565
587	589	590	604	631	635	624
645	646	649	647	650	662	678
682	684	677	683	691	693	695
707	714	715	717	731	737	753
752	744	745	760	802	804	824
818	833	835	838	844	843	

Remember we mail you Membership card in advance and the system works well but the above list - Well what else can I say.

YOUR CANCELLED CHECK IS YOUR RECEIPT

MORE CHAPTER NEWS

Dear Jim;

As a former member of the 132nd Infantry, and in reading the Americal Newsletter, I found New Jersey was not listed under the Eastern Regional Chapter either on Page 8 or Page 9. Does New Jersey come under that Chapter or another?

I would appreciate hearing from you.

Thank you,
Frank Kreisel

Frank, New Jersey does come under the Eastern Regional Chapter. Sorry about the slip. Glad to know someone is reading the Newsletter.

EDITOR

132ND INFANTRY REGIMENT WORLD WAR II ASSOCIATION

Dear Jim;

In keeping with the theme of "Homecoming '86" for the State of Tennessee, the Chamber of Commerce of the City of Tullahoma prepared for a reunion of all who were involved in the activities of Camp Forrest, which was located just outside of the city limits of Tullahoma, from 1940 to 1946. Invited were construction workers who built the Camp, civilian employees, Federally inducted National Guard units, Trainees, babies that were born at the Base Hospital and POW's. A special invitation was forwarded to the 132nd Infantry WW II Association giving them the honor to be the first marching unit in the parade following the 129th Army Band.

The 3 daysm August 14, 15, and 16 began with a picnic on Thursday in Post 43 American Legion Hall, followed by dancing. A USO-style dance featuring a 17 piece orchestra playing music from the '40's on Friday and the parade and dedication fi the Camp Forrest Memorial on Saturday. The Memorial is a 12 foot shaft upon a five pointed star basem erected at the former "Gate #1 Entrance" to the Camp. A plaque at the base bears the inscription, "Erected by the citizens of the City of Tullahoma as a tribute to the men and women who trained and worked at Camp Forrest and contributed significantly to Victory in World War II. Dedicated August 16, 1986.

Many of those present volunteered to actively participate (MARCH) in the parade (length one mile) and received applause the full length of the march

On the reviewing and speakers stands, along with local and military dignitaries, were Dr. Robert Muehrcke, presenting a response for the veterans groups and Rocco and Marge Solto who closed the ceremonies with Mrs. Solto singing the National Anthem and Rocco Solto, President of the 132nd Association, giving the benediction.

The program included a fly-by of the helicopter units of the Tennessee National Guard.

although all the wooden buildings have been remove, leaving only the concrete foundation posts and the furnace brickwork, the streets still remain and the Chamber of Commerce and the U S.Army arranged to have them all marked as well as the unit locations so the visiter could locate their "former residences" during Camp tours during the reunion.

Thank you,
Clarence W. Galetti, Director, 132nd Inf. Assoc.

132nd Infantry Regiment
"ON PARADE"



LEFT TO RIGHT
Dan Neesan, Dr. Robt. Muehrcke, Dr. Henry Ricci,
Don Stevens, Bernard Stellar, Fred Hitzman
Joe Micek, Stanley Stann



LEFT TO RIGHT
Paul Hastedt, Stanley Stann, Frank Dane, Dr. Henry Ricci
Vernon Youtzy, Bernard Stellar, Don Stevens
Richard Schubert, Clarence Galletti, Joe Micek
Otto Petr



THE MONUMENT

Reunions

182nd INFANTRY ASSOCIATION

THE SECOND

Dinner Dance

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 22, 1986

Installation

Elks Hall - Church St.
Everett, Mass.

Gift-o-Rama

Dinner 7:00 PM Boneless Brest of Chicken
\$10.00 a person Call for reservations

Doug Tarbox [REDACTED]

Don Tibbets [REDACTED]

Letters to the Editor

Dear Joe;

Sorry I will not be able to attend the reunion this year. I had some other things planned ahead and souls not work this in. Hope to attend next year.

I would like you to do something for me if you can. Make an announcement at one of your meetings and see if any of the fellows that were in the Finance Dept. are at the reunion and if there are ask them to get in touch with me for I sure would like to hear from them. As you know, the Division was made up from around Boston and I lost contact with them when the war was over.

Thanks again and I hope to be there next year.

Yours truly
Loy M. Robinson

(Lets hear it for Loy)

[REDACTED]
Memphis, TN
38116

Dear Fellow Servicemen;

My wife and I were planning on coming up this year to the Clam Bake. We had never attended one up to now and it looks like we could make it.

Last year we drove up to visit the Americal Museum but we couldn't see it all. I figured by going to the Clam Bake it would give me an opportunity to see more.

As things happen, on July 7th I fell from a fruit tree and broke my leg. I'm still not able to step on the leg so you can see why I can't travel up to Fort Devens.

Whom ever gets this letter would you pass this information along to Bill Dunphy and Sam Ravagno. Both were in my outfit overseas.

I would have liked to have gone to Pittsburg this month for our reunion.

Yours,
Maynard Crouse
121 Med Co. C

Continued next column

Letters to the Editor (Con't)

Adjutant
Chapter Coordinator;

It is with deep regret that I must advise you of the resignation of Josephine Bruck as Secretary/Treasurer of the Eastern Regional Chapter, due to health reasons. She has been a tremendous help to me, and without her, this chapter would not exist. I'm sure you will join me in wishing her the best of everything in the future.

Bob Hock

Bob;

I wish to thank Josephine also for the time and effort she gave to the ADVA to establish the Eastern Regional Chapter after the passing of Dan Pisani. Working with you and Dan's wife Mary the Eastern Regional Chapter was established and has become part of the Americal Family. Thanks Josephine for all the work you gave freely and I will be looking forward to meeting you at a future date.

William L. Dunphy
Chapter Coordinator

To All Veterans;

Just this year I got around to attend my outfit's annual reunion - The Americal Division.

Forty-one years ago we parted as young men, hoping to keep in touch. Of course many of us haven't but I have never forgotten many of you.

When I arrived in Vermont, (Americal Division Veterans Association National Convention held at Ascutney Mountain Resort June 5, 6, 7, 8, 1986) none of my old Company was there, but the other outfits represented you to me.

Happily I found where my Sec Sgt., James L. Standish lived. We met briefly but grateful to see one another. He has never heard from or seen any of the L Co. 182nd Infantry Regiment, of the original Massachusetts National Guard, since 1945 -- forty-one (41) years ago.

What I am trying to say is, please attend your reunions if you can. The years are passing. I'm sure your buddies would be glad to see you again, even a short while. Stay with the AMERICAL and join whatever other organizations you care to.

I must say that my 6700 mile odyssey was fruitful, I scouted out five mavericks, one on the way out and four on the way back to California.

Respectfully,
Fernando Vera (Ex-PFC)

Editor's note; The above is a letter that Fernando has requested to be published in the V.F.W. Magazine

HAVE YOU TAKEN THE TIME TO WRITE
OR CALL A FORMER COMRADE LATELY?

DO IT NOW!


Pacific Notebook
1 Grave Stands for Thousands of Others
 (Reprinted from the Long Beach Press Telegram)

Mataki, Philippines -- There are no poppies amid the crosses row on row.

But overhead there are flame trees with poppy-colored blossoms, and below them sweeping lawns propagated 30 years ago from two square yards of Maryland sod.

It is called the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial, and its centerpiece is a circular arcade of 48 limestone walls. Inscribed on them are 36,279 names, men who shared two common bonds.

They fought in the Pacific War. And they were never found.

They are the war's missing in action. On 36,279 yesterdays, their names appeared on telegrams delivered to every state in America.

"Some there be who have no sepulchre," read words etched in stone at the arcade's entrance. "Their names liveth forevermore."

State seals are set in the arcade's floor. On this Friday afternoon, a girl of 9 or 10 has been trying to sketch the seal of California. It is too great a task, and soon she skips off with classmates from a school at nearby Fort Bonifacio (formerly Fort McKinley).

One of the children, a small boy, trails behind. I ask if he knows what this place is about.

"It's for guys who fought in a big war," he says. He flashes a smile. Then he, too, is gone.

Under the well-manicured lawns are other "guys who fought in a big war" -- 17,206 of them, the largest assembly of American graves outside the United States. There are 20 pairs of brothers under this sea of marble crosses and Stars of David. And 3,000 Pacific War heroes whose identities no one could ever determine. It was that kind of a war.

The mind deals strangely with numbers. It cannot pour out 17,206 times more sorrow than it can muster for a single individual. That may be a failing of the mental machine, but we are stuck with it.

It occurs to me that my only chance to grasp the meaning of this place is to focus on one of its eternal residents. My eyes fall on a distant grave, and I walk to it, curious to see the name of the man my mind has chosen to represent the others.

Here is the section. Here is the row. And here, three plots in, is the grave:

Jackson L. Cannell, Jr.

T Sgt 182 Inf Americal Div
Massachusetts Feb. 25, 1945

In the last February of the war, the Americal Division was in the Philippines. He must have died there, standing or crouching in the wrong place at the wrong time. A few inches to the right, an inch or two to the left, and he might be in Massachusetts at this moment -- vacationing at the Cape with the grandkids, or sitting with cronies at Fenway Park.

1 Grave Stands for Thousands of Others
 (continued)

You nearly made it, Jackson. Another few months and the war would have been over. What would you have done with the years?

In nearly 12,000 zig-zagged miles across the Pacific, one sees many monuments. Jackson Cannell's grave may stay in my memory the longest, but another memorial is etched there too.

Back on Mt. Austen, where some of Guadalcanal's most bitter fighting took place, a sculpture depicts a fisherman praying for a good catch.

That may seem odd on a mountain, but the wish behind the sculpture is symbolic -- a "good catch which will bring eternal peace to the people of the Solomon Islands."

It was done long ago by a Japanese sculptor named Eikichi Takahashi. After the war, when everybody's pain had numbed a little bit, his village donated the work to the Islanders.

Eikichi was dead by then -- killed in the fighting on Guadalcanal.

What wonderful things they might have done through the years.

Eikichi Takahashi and Jackson Cannell.

Joel Madrigal stands outside the American Manila Cemetery. He was a young man in the Philippines during the war, and he talks a bit of terrible things that happened to his family during that time. But his remembrances come to a jubilant close.

"Thank God, for America," he says. "I come out here sometimes because it was a wonderful thing the Americans did for us."

Wonderful things. Sent in by Paul Jordan MP

EDITOR'S NOTE

On the following pages are some pictures of Memorials to the honored dead on the island of Guadalcanal.

My first return visit to Guadalcanal was in January of 1981. At that time one could take a tour in a Van from the Hotel Mendana. (This Hotel is located overlooking Point Cruz.) The tour took you to the top of Bloody Ridge to view a Marine marker telling of the battle that took place there, Koli Point, Kukum Beach to see the remains of old U.S. landing craft, one was a landing craft off of APA 15, and you would also visit General Vandegrift's Headquarters and the old Control tower on Henderson Field.

I returned again to Guadalcanal in February of 1985. The Van no longer operated from the Hotel Mendana nor could I find any tours being operated. I rented a car and tried to find these familiar sights again but because of fenced land with "No trespassing", impassable roads, and lack of knowledge of persons I questioned, I returned to the Hotel disappointed.

While sitting at the Bar that evening I was engaged in conversation with an Australian and he told me of the beautiful Memorial that had been constructed by the Japanese on the top of Mt. Austen.

EDITOR'S NOTE (Con't)

The next day, in my rented Japanese car, I drove to the top of Mt. Auten upon a beautiful macadam road. The pictures do not do justice to the Memorial Park but I do hope they will give you some idea of its beauty. The concrete shafts that are the center of the monument are approximately twenty feet high and about six feet wide. There are eight shafts, each two forming a right angle and facing North, East, South., and West.

Jim Buckle



ソロモン平和公園 (SOLOMON PEACE MEMORIAL PARK)

REST IN PEACE

At this place repose all the spirits of those who sacrificed their lives in World War II at Guadalcanal and the entire Pacific area.

This represents a requiem for their souls and serves to remind us all of their patriotism which they dedicated to their mother countries. We pledge here to establish eternal peace on earth.
(Center monument)

SOUND OF THE TIDE

Gazing at a point beyond the sea and sky... a manly figure of this fisherman who prays for a good catch which will bring eternal peace and happiness to all of the people of the Solomon Islands.
(Monument on left)



In front of Terminal Henderson Field



Inside of Terminal at Henderson Field



Outside Terminal at Henderson Field



Outside Terminal at Henderson Field



Inside Terminal at Henderson Field



Outside the Terminal at Henderson Field



Outside the Terminal at Henderson Field



Japanese monument place at Fred Vila's Museum

THE AMERICAL WAS NOTED BY IT ABSENCE!

The following story is an excerpt from the Diary of Alexander J. Mozzer M.D. Capt. M.C. Ret. AUS. He states - Although I had been overseas in Australia, New Guinea, and Biak for almost three years, I had not served with an Infantry unit, until I was transferred out of the 4th General Hospital in Ne Guinea to the First Field Hospital in Leyte, PI, March of 1945 and was promptly put on detached service with the Americal Division, because I would have interfered with the rotation home of one of their officers. They had 20-24 months of overseas service and I had almost 36.

I served with the 121st Medical Battalion from early March 1945 until being wounded on March 28, 1945. I might have the distinction of being the person with the shortest service with the Americal before being wounded. I have "adopted" the Americal as my outfit. From the Diary ----

March 26, 27, 28, 1945 - The Invasion of Cebu

The attacking convoy came into Cebu Harbor, the morning of March 26, 1945. The harbor was located at the south western part of the Island away from Cebu City proper. Invasion morning was bright and sunny. The Navy gave the shore a terrific bombardment. Smaller boats came close to shore and raked it with rockets. There was no response from shore, as the Japanese had moved to the mountains overlooking Cebu City. After about a one half hour of bombardment the assault troops and boats went in. The area also had been bombed for two weeks by our airplanes. After the assault troops went in the LST's and other boats went in. We learned later that the first troops sustained only a few casualties from mines planted and hidden ashore. The Japs had pulled out, passed right through Cebu City and then into the mountains.

The night before the invasion I had a small room but did not sleep.

The civilian population had also evacuated the City. The Japs had burned or destroyed what was left of the City, or that untouched by our bombs. After several hours our LST moved closer to shore and we disembarked into a smaller boat called a "Duck". I sat on the beach for awhile and watched General Arnold, the C.O. of the invasion. After a short period on shore, the Medical Section got together and marched toward Cebu City, following the Infantry troops. By the 27th of Mar 1945 the Americal Division troops were already in the City. Here and there groups of Japs had been left behind the lines. Sniper fire occurred now and then. I was fortunate in not being hit at this time of march inland. The Japs left behind, had orders to make trouble behind the lines. I was not used to hiking and the first night I had blisters on my feet. Our Medical unit slept in a brewery. There was a spot of blood near where I slept. Someone may have died there. I slept on the floor curled up in a blanket, and the sleep was fitful with awake periods.

On the morning of March 28th, 1945, we received transportation to and through Cebu City, to the northern outskirts facing the mountains where the Japs were entrenched. We set up in an old school building back of the capitol. The same morning we looked around. I visited the Court House on the same street. I saw the remains of two American flyers in a trench who had been burned alive, after being drenched with gasoline by the Japs, when the invasion started. I also saw a hole, a big one, all filled with Filipino's, with bullet holes in their heads. They were black and bloated. A horrible sight to be sure.

Dr. Mozzer's Diary (Con't)

The Infantry was only a 1/4 to a 1/2 ahead of us and was now makin slow progress. The unit I was with was called a Collecting Company. During the day I collected some ambulatory wounded (soldiers) and took them back to the Stone Church which was now a hospital. I did not know I would be a patient there myself before the day was over.

About 5 pm Captain L-----. a medical officer in charge of our unit, an medical administration officer, afew medical aid men and myself, set off to explore the area up ahead toward the mountains. I think the Captain was looking for a place to set up an Aid Station. I was skeptical about going but went regardless. I do not recall the names of the Officers or men with us except Captain [REDACTED] C.O. of our Company. Captain ---- was about forty (40) years old and had already been overseas about 40 months. He was from somewhere in California. Some of the Officers from our organization Had already been up to where we were going. During the day the Japs shelled the City from positions in the mountains. Every now and then we would hear a loud bang where a shell had landed.

Near the Capitol building, there was considerable sniper fire also. I was reluctant to go that way thinking it foolish. There was a Spanish type of building near the road, near the Capitol building. The Captain evidently was interested in looking this building over for possible use as a hospital. A Spanish type building with a wall around it and one entrance and the same for an exit. This building had been used as a Jap hospital. It had been struck by bombs but portions were still standing. There was a big unexploded bomb in the basement. In the court-yard to the rear, there was a bomb crater. The unexploded parachute bomb made me feel uneasy, and I wanted to be away from there as soon as possible. I now it was no place for a small hospital. If I had followed my own instincts and inclinations I would possibly not been wounded. But, who knows, I might have wounded or killed later.

We were close enough to hear the Infantry rifle fire. We heard loud explosions nearby now and then. There were Jap motrar shells but the Captain thought the noise was from our own artillery firing at the Japs. He apparently was not aware of the danger like I was. We went out into the courtyard in back of the building and looked a-round. We had come in a Jeep which was parked out front.. I moved back toward the other men in the group. Someone I think it was the Medical Adm . Officer, yelled for us to fall down flat and we did. A loud explosion occurred and we were showered with dirt. We got up and ran several times to reach the road where the Jeep was. On reaching the corner of the building, we again hit the dirt. The Medical Administration Officer had combat experience and he would yell for us to run and then tell us when to fall flat. The final mortar shell, the fifth, injured Captain ---- and myself. The explosian blew a large piece of wood into my right thigh, above the knee. It hit me in the rig't spot otherwise I would have bled to death if the hit had beenhigher up the leg where the large femeral artery is nearer to the surface. Captain----, I learned later, got shrapnel, pieces of the mortar shell, in his back. The entire group had disappeared except our man who lay still. I learned later he was killed. I was still able to move so I ran to the front of

Dr. Mozzer's Diary (con't)

the building which was more ou' of view , and lay in the gutter. Should have noticed the shell coming in but we did not. As I laid there I wondered if I was to die. The shelling stopped. The Japs watching fro the mountains had bracketed us with mortar shells

I looked at my leg and saw there was a large hole there with a flap of flesh. I did not know the wood was still in the wound. Although the wound was large, about six inches long, I was not bleeding much. In a short time I yelled out and the MAC Officer came out of the air shelter. He and some of the other men moved me onto the Jeep. They also moved Captain---- . He had gotten into the air raid shelter, apparently after the last shell had fallen. He seemed in a daze or in shock. We were taken down the road, around a large , newly formed shell hole, to our hospital in the Stone Church. Be fore that we had stopped at a medical aid station for morphine. They had landed after we did , had not as yet set up, and had no morphine. I received a hypo of morphine when we arrived at the Stone Church.

I was wounded at approximately 6 pm on March 28, 1945. About 10 pm that evening a debridement of my leg was done. The person in charge of the Medical unit was Col. Belfonte. The surgeon who operated was Dr. Edmund L. Whelen, Malden, MA (Dr. Edmund L. Whelan, of Med Det 182nd Inf)The operation was done under sodium pentothal inter-veinously. The Church Hospital was quite crowed and a priest had given me the last rites, "just in case". There had not been many casualties on March 26th and 27th because the Japs were in the mountains. More casualties came later. I learned later they had under estimated the casualties and the medical units were over worked. When they the Infantry, reached the mountains the casualties began to mount and arrive at the Stone church hospital in large numbers. There was a great confusion of cots on the main floor of the church. I slept all night from the effects of the sodium pentothal anesthesia. The next day no food. The men working in the hospital were so busy that we were only given food when we could catch their attention as they went by. Most of us were not hungry anyway. There were several sick or wounded Japs nearby. Having seen some of their atrocities and treachery, I did not want htem near me.

On March 29,1945 a plane flew over and strafed the church. I could hear the bullets entering the top of the church. I did not know what to do so rolled off the cot onto the floor. The moving was painful and did not make me feel any better. The plane, I learned later, was one of ours making a mistake.

About the third day I was moved from the Stone Church hospital to an LST. The LST was full of wounded including Captain ---- who had the bunk above me. I made some remark that we should not have been where we were when we were wounded, and he "shushed" me as he was afraid he would be found at fault. I later wrote to Captain---- at his home in California but he never answered my letter. From the LST Captain----was evacuated to Leyte by seaplane. I was left behind with the other wounded. I was to remain on the LST for nine days and nights. After nine days on the LST I was moved to the 116th Station Hospital and later to the 44th General Hospital on Leyte. My next move wes to the States arriving on May 30, 1945.

COL. ROBERT W. CARBRAY

SERVED IN THREE WARS

Retired Army Colonel Robert W. Carbray, who lives in Peoria, Arizona, is a veteran of three wars, but he has is "Hip Pocket Orders," ready for recall just in case another war breaks out. He also worked for the Chicago, Illinois Police Department for 25 years and rose to the rank of Homicide Detective, working out of the tough Maxwell Street Station.

During World War II he served in the Pacific Theater with the 132nd Infantry Regiment, formerly of the 33rd Division, Illinois National Guard but now part of the Americal Division. The Americal Division was formed on the south Pacific island of New Caledonia from remnants of four old square divisions that had been trianglized. Serving as an enlisted man, he saw action as a machine gunner in Company M, 132nd Infantry. His division, the Americal Division, is credited with being the first Army division to take offensive action in the Pacific during World War II. When he returned from the war he joined the Chicago Police Department.

SERVED IN KOREA

Colonel Carbray answered the "call to Colors" again in 1950. He received his commission as a Second Lieutenant while serving with the 24th Infantry Division during the Korean conflict.

In 1965 Colonel Carbray was graduated as top student from the Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. His name plate still hangs in the place of honor in the college's Bell Hall.

In 1968 Colonel Carbray received a Bachelor of Laws degree from LaSalle Extension University. The Chicago Police Star says of this fete-- Carbray earned the degree in eight months instead of the usual three years because he studied at least ten hours a night.

In 1971 Colonel Carbray received a Certificate from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, after having completed a course in National Security Management. He also attended the Illinois Institute of Technology and was a candidate for the U.S. War College.

JOINS AMERICAL DIVISION AGAIN

In 1968 and 1969, Colonel Carbray commanded the 61st Infantry, 3rd Battalion, in the famous AMERICAL Division, in Vietnam. This was his World War II outfit and he wanted to serve with it again.

Two of his sons also served in Vietnam. Robert was a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne and Patrick saw service in the Navy.

A dedicated American who served his country in three wars, but another proud chapter in his life was his work with the Chicago Police Department. Now enjoying the Arizona sunshine he is ready to serve again. In fact, his orders are in his "HIP POCKET."

The following is a story of one of Colonel Carbray's battle experiences:

THIS IS A TRUE STORY ABOUT GUADALCANAL

In 1942 and 1943 I was a PFC Machine Gunner, heavy type water cooled, assigned to Company M, 132nd Infantry, Americal Infantry Division on Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands during World War II.

I will never forget just before Christmas of 1942, about 17th of December in the morning, Company L, reinforced by our Company M, moved out from the perimeter in the direction of Mt. Austen toward the north end of Guadalcanal. To our rear was the remainder of the Third Battalion standing ready to follow at a moments notice. As the leading elements of the Company neared the forward slope of the hill, intensive bursts of Japanese defensive fire broke the jungle silence. Defensive fire continued all day. From well concealed positions in the dense undergrowth came fire of all calibers from rifles, light and heavy machine guns and mortars. We were completely nailed down so we dug in to await further developments. Realizing the seriousness of this situation, Lt. Colonel WILLIAM C. WRIGHT, my Battalion Commander, hustled the rest of the Battalion into action to endeavor to reach the crest of Mt. Austen without further delay. By late afternoon the entire Third Battalion was in position along the line of Company L and Company M.

When the remainder of the Battalion was committed, it was planned that we attack as soon as all troops were in position. However, the long, arduous forced march had exhausted the riflemen so that the attack could not be carried out. So the assault was postponed until the following morning, and so we had to set up a Reconnaissance to look over the situation.

The Air strikes and Artillery concentration were called upon to soften up the Japanese resistance enough to allow the Battalion to drive through to its objective.

The next day 18 December, in the wake of intense aerial bombing and artillery fire the Third Battalion struck forward up the slopes of Mt. Austen, but almost immediately the advance ground to a halt as soon as the Japanese lashed forth with a tremendous hail of defensive fire. We tried to gain ground all through the day but we were thrown back.

Then again on 19 December we tried again but were bogged down almost as soon as it started. My Battalion Commander, Lt. Colonel WILLIAM C. WRIGHT, hurried forward to make a personal investigation into the cause of the delay and lack of progress. As he was with his most forward elements of his command, fire from a well concealed Japanese machine gun mortally wounded him with a single burst. Several attempts at rescue were forced to withdraw by heavy Japanese fire. Finally a S-2 Patrol reached Colonel Wright---but he was dead.

The 57th Engineers named a supply road they were building, WRIGHT ROAD, in respect of the courage and devotion of our late commander.

We finally took Mt. Austen on Christmas of 1942, but we suffered many casualties.

That is how I saw it.

Bob Carbray



AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

P. O. BOX 1381

BOSTON, MASS. 02104

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John DeGroot

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Chicago, Ill., 60634

Eligibility for Membership

Membership in ADVA is open to all officers and enlisted men now serving with or who have served with the Americal (23d INF) Division in an assigned or attached status during the following periods:

World War II (South Pacific)	1942-1945
Korean War (Caribbean)	1954-1956
Vietnam	1967-1973

Eligibility includes those who served with Task Force 6814 and Task Force Oregon. Branch of service is immaterial.

AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 1381, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02104

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name:

Telephone:

Address — Street:

City:

State:

Zip:

American Unit:

Dates of Service — From:

To:

Serial No.:

Date of Birth:

Blood Type:

Religion:

V. A. Claim No.:

V. A. Office — City:

State:

Occupation:

Wife's First Name:

Date:

Signature:

Sponsored by:

(NOTE: Please Enclose Annual Dues)

Date Received:

Date Processed:

Expiration Date:

Membership Identity Number:

Lapel Pin

Decal

Other