

★ GUADALCANAL

★ NORTHERN SOLOMONS

★ LEYTE

★ SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

★ VIETNAM



FOUNDED 1945

MARCH - APRIL 1989

AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

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

Editor-in-Chief: Oscar Paterson III

Vietnam Editor: Ron Ward

Published Bi-Monthly

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



176 AVIATION COMPANY

VIETNAM 1970

1988 NATIONAL OFFICERS 1989

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Boston, MA 02130

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St. Louis, MO 63123

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AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

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Wakefield, MA 01880

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Oscar Patterson III
Fayetteville, NC 28396

VIETNAM EDITOR

Ronald L. Ward
St. Louis, MO 63123

#Vietnam Veteran

MONTHLY A.D.V.A. MEETINGS

April 8, 1989

Americal Museum Fort Devens, MA
1:00 p.m. Business Meeting

May, 1989

VETERANS DAY

June, 1989

NATIONAL CONVENTION

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

This month's message comes from a sad and heavy heart. In the space of two weeks, the Americal Division Veterans Association lost two members and an ardent booster.

Allen Adams, Company M, 182 Infantry, passed away on January 31, 1989. He did a lot of work as a curator for the Americal Museum at Fort Devens. All the different patches and insignias that are displayed and the models hanging from the rafters are his work. He even made some of those models. He was so inconspicuous in his contributions and tireless efforts that many people did not know who was responsible for this work. They will.

Father Laurence Brock, Catholic Chaplain of the 182 Infantry passed away on February 9, 1989. He was well liked and thought highly of by the men of the 182 Infantry and others that sought spiritual guidance and consolation.

Any member than wishes to send a donation in the memory of Father Brock may send it to: Campion Center for Retired Jesuits, 319 Concord Road, Weston, MA 02193.

Doris Chase, wife of our National Adjutant, Bernard Chase, passed away on February 11, 1989, after being involved in a tragic accident.

Doris was an ardent booster of the Americal Family. She helped to plan and did much of the background work for many of our social activities. Her pleasant smile and personality will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

I could go on and on about the contributions these people have made to the Americal. It is saddening and hard to realize that we have lost such assets to our Association in such a short space of time.

Our condolences go out to all their families in this, their time of sorrow. May all their souls rest in peace.

TIME IS GROWING SHORT!

Time is growing short to make plans for the National Convention--June 1,2,3 in Orlando, Florida. Anybody who is planning on flying in should take a look at American Airlines' discount fares. 45% off with only two weeks notice isn't bad!

A.D.V.A. NATIONAL CONVENTION

June 1,2,3 1989
Delta Court of Flags
Orlando, Florida

ARE YOUR DUES
PAID?IMPORTANT!
YOU SHOULD KNOW!

DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES

SEPTEMBER DUES NOTICES

1st Notice Membership Card Mailed in ADVANCE of payment of dues.

2nd Notice Overdue notice printed in November-December Newsletter.

3rd Notice Overdue notice mailed January 1989.

Final Notice In 30 days your name will be removed from the Roster.

How many other organizations carry an overdue member for ALMOST ONE FULL YEAR?

Rudy R. Alaniz	Arthur J. Boucher
Edward J. Bowser, Jr.	David M. Bradley
Frank Anthony Burnett	William D. Daly
David E. Gilbert	Dennis Espinoza
James S. Giles Jr.	Edward W. Frantz
William Gorski	Charles L. Gilliland
Joseph Kimball	Jack Haas
George McAneney	Ernie R. Lopes
Jesse A. Rivera	Joseph P. Meinike
Fiori J. Sacco	Gerald T. Repman
Edward J. Stein	Richard Ryan

Larry L. Uplinger

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

IMPORTANT
JANUARY DUES NOTICES

The January Dues Notices were mailed out during January 1989. Please remember that Dues are \$12.00 per year. This is your second notice since we mailed your card in advance of payment. Your cancelled check is your receipt.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR CARE NUMBER!
IF LISTED BELOW,
SEND YOUR PAYMENT NOW!

MEMBERSHIP CARD NUMBERS

J-0340	J-0392	J-0461	J-0511	J-0592	J-0645
J-0341	J-0394	J-0464	J-0512	J-0593	J-0646
J-0343	J-0404	J-0465	J-0513	J-0598	J-0651
J-0344	J-0413	J-0470	J-0514	J-0600	J-0659
J-0350	J-0417	J-0471	J-0518	J-0607	J-0660
J-0352	J-0421	J-0475	J-0519	J-0616	J-0664
J-0354	J-0423	J-0477	J-0520	J-0617	J-0666
J-0355	J-0427	J-0481	J-0521	J-0618	J-0667
J-0358	J-0428	J-0483	J-0522	J-0620	J-0672
J-0360	J-0429	J-0487	J-0523	J-0625	J-0674
J-0361	J-0431	J-0488	J-0526	J-0630	J-0678
J-0363	J-0434	J-0490	J-0530	J-0631	J-0680
J-0365	J-0438	J-0495	J-0531	J-0632	J-0339
J-0369	J-0439	J-0497	J-0536	J-0633	J-0408
J-0378	J-0445	J-0498	J-0551	J-0635	J-0426
J-0383	J-0446	J-0501	J-0555	J-0636	J-0595
J-0384	J-0448	J-0504	J-0575	J-0639	J-0650
J-0386	J-0453	J-0505	J-0584	J-0641	J-0669
J-0389	J-0458	J-0507	J-0547	J-0642	J-0693
J-0389	J-0460	J-0510	J-0590	J-0644	J-0694

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Joseph Balcazar Jerry F. Kralik
132nd Infantry 4/31 A/C Co. 196 LIB
South Miami, FL Napperville, IL

Joseph McConnell Joseph O'Brien
Btry. A 245th F.A. 198 LIB
Blakely, PA Flushing, NY

Vernon F. Schoof
246th F.A.
McMinnville, OR

NEW MEMBERS

John C. Beitzel Sylves D. Benson
D Co. 4/21 Inf. 11 LIB 247th F.A.
Media, PA St. Helena, CA
#Bill Sema #Herbert H. Baer

Orland F. Burns Leonard A. Corvelli
Hq. Btry. 72nd F.A. 26th Signal
San Antonio, TX Wyomissing, PA
#Steven J. Nichols #William A. Gold

Robert K. Cowles Carl F. Cox
E Trp 1st CAV 11 LIB B Co 8th Spt Bn 196 LIB
Springfield, IL Lakeside, FL
#Bernie Chase #Robert Thornton

Francis P. Delfgaaulu Irvin S. Dworkin
C Co 4/31 Inf 11 LIB 221st F.A.
Brooklyn, NY Columbus, OH
#Richard Carey #LTC Peter Messina

Robert L. Granoff David L. Heindl
26th Signal E Co 1/6 198 LIB
Collegeville, PA Big Bend, WI
#William A. Gold #Bernie Chase

Lawrence E. Holoway Jerry F. Kralik
Co E 182nd Inf 4/31 Inf A/C Co 196 LIB
Seminole, FL Napperville, IL
#Jim Buckle #Robert Thornton

Richard C. Mazzarella Joseph McConnell
Co A 5/46 198 LIB Btry A 245th F.A.
Bradford, MA Blakely, PA
#John J. Sullivan #Forrest A. Mengel

Michael McPherson Harold A. Minahan
196 LIB 494 GM Depot Co
Felton, DL Methuen, MA
#Dutch DeGroot #Frank Diorio

Dennis J. Nickels Kermit E. Trout
HQ 4/3 11 LIB 26th Signal
Chicago, IL Mohnton, PA
#Bruce Mulcrone #William A. Gold

Donald VanEsterbridge
23rd M.P.
Wharton, NJ
#Self

#Sponsor

HAVE YOU ASKED A BUDDY
TO JOIN ADVA?

TAPS

Allan S. Adams
182nd Inf.
Methuen, MA
1 January 1989

Rev. Lawrence Brock
182nd Inf.
Boston, MA
February 1989

SICK CALL

Pat Farino
Punta Gorda, FL
33850

Ed Heartquist
Tarpon Springs, FL
34689

Jesse E. Hare
Morrisville, PA
19067

THANKS!

I wish to thank all my friends of the Americal Division Veterans Association for the dozens of cards and the many telephone calls that I received during my recent hospital stay. I am now well on the road to recovery and the Doc says that I can get back to a normal life by the middle of March.

Thanks again---they meant so much.

Jim Buckle

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

WHEN YOU MOVE, THERE ARE TWO THINGS
YOU MUST DO.

SEND YOUR NEW ADDRESS TO

Bernard Chase
A.D.V.A. National Adjutant
South Yarmouth, MA 02664

AND TO

Americal Newsletter
Boston, MA 02140

AMERICAL MUSEUM

TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO WORE
THE SOUTHERN CROSS

They wore the patch of the Southern Cross. They fought in World War II, served at Fort Amador, Canal Zone, and became one of the largest divisions in Vietnam.

They fought three major campaigns during World War II and were originally composed of the 164th Infantry Regiment, North Dakota National Guard, 132nd Infantry Regiment, Illinois National Guard, and 182nd Infantry Regiment, Massachusetts National Guard.

During Vietnam, the division surely held their hills, but little is written about their involvement.

ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

The January-February 1989 issue of the Americal Newsletter mailed to the following members was returned to Headquarters marked TEMPORARILY AWAY and we were charged \$.30 for its return. Did you know that this is now the practice of the Postal Service?

Paul Barnes	Burlington, MA
Frederick Grenier	Hyde Park, MA
Leo Sevinor	Marblehead, MA
Raymond Sawyer	Brooklyn Center, MN
Calvin Carpenter	Woburn, MA

January-February 1989 issues returned because of address change of which we were not notified:

Omer B. Beaupre Grand Isle, ME

If you desire your copy of the January-February 1989 issue please sent \$1.00 or send \$.45 in stamps and a copy will be mailed to you First Class. Send to

Jim Buckle
Wakefield, MA 01880

NEW ADDRESS WHEN YOU MOVE?

CLIP AND MAIL TO HEADQUARTERS

Americal Newsletter
P.O. Box 1381
Boston, MA 02104

NAME _____

NEW ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

DON'T KEEP YOUR NEW ADDRESS A SECRET--LET US
KNOW ABOUT IT!

ARMED FORCES DAY

Saturday, May 20, 1989

Americal Museum Fort Devens, MA
10:00 a.m. Business Meeting
Refreshments will be served!

1/1 ARMOR ADDS POWER
TO 196TH

The most battle-decorated unit in the U.S. Regular Army has joined Task Force Oregon and will work with the 196th Lt. Inf. Bde.

The "Dragons" of the 1st Armored Cav. Reg., has 68 campaign streamers.

Their historical rolls include such noted figures as 2LT Jefferson Davis, Kit Carson, CPT John J. Pershing, and CPT Johnathan Wainwright. Wainwright is one of the 43 Medal of Honor winners in the unit.

THE CHARGER, Sept. 11, 1967

CHAPTER NEWS

EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER

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

REGIONAL COMMANDER Robert T. Hock
Reading, PA 19601
Tele. _____

The Chapter is still making plans for the Chapter Reunion September 22-24, 1989, at the Day's Inn, 224 White Horse Pike, Absecon, NJ 08201. We have picked up a few door prizes. We will distribute them by drawing at our Dinner on Friday night.

WILLIAM F. MCGOLDRICK - CAPE COD CHAPTER
PLYMOUTH & WAREHAM AND SOUTH OF
THE CAPE COD CANAL

COMMANDER Hugh Murnaghan
346 Camp Street, West Yarmouth, MA 02673
Tele. _____

At the January meeting of the Chapter, Francis McPhillips, 182nd Inf., besides telling a few war stories, told the members present of his deep sea fishing exploits. A future meeting was planned to have members and their wives get together for a St. Patrick's Day Dinner/Dance. The next three meetings will be held at the V.F.W. in Hyannis at 1:00 p.m. on March 13, April 10, and May 8, 1989.

FAR WEST CHAPTER

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

Lloyd Morrell
47 Collins Drive, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
Tele. _____

On behalf of all the members of the Far West Chapter, we offer our deepest sympathy to our National Adjutant Bernie Chase on the recent loss of his wife, Doris. Many of our members knew her through her attendance with Bernie at our Far West conventions. We remember her as a very warm and friendly person. Our Association will feel the loss of her staunch support and friendship.

Watch this space for a happening in October for the Chapter. I have ideas for a weekend bivouac somewhere in a central area with an attraction that should entice good attendance from our Far West members. This is far enough in advance to let you start thinking about it and including it in your plans. The event will be scheduled so as not to interfere with any National happenings. More on this later, but give me your support if you want to keep this Chapter active.

43rd INFANTRY DIVISION
VETERANS ASSOCIATION

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06115

REUNION

September 8, 9, & 10

CONTACT

Howard F. Brown

East Greenwich, RI 02818

ASSOCIATION LOOSES STAUNCH SUPPORTER

Dear Members and Friends:

On February 11, 1989, at 7:40 a.m., my wife Doris and I left our home to attend an Executive Council meeting of the American Division Veterans Association. At 7:45 a.m., while we were driving on the highway, a plane attempted an emergency landing on the same highway. As a result of this tragic accident, my wife Doris was killed, and I suffered only minor bruises, physically.

On behalf of my family, I would like to thank one and all for the support that we received from the Americal members in this tragedy in our lives. We received so many letters, cards, Spiritual Bouquets, flowers, and telephone calls from our members, that it made me proud to be a member of the A.D.V.A.

Doris really liked to attend Americal functions, and she made every convention and party since I retired in 1980. She really liked the idea of rotating the convention around the country so she could meet and talk to more members. She had already purchased her outfits for Orlando, and was packing the suitcases. I know that she and the rest of the Americal family that have passed on before her will be looking down on us at Orlando, and will want us to have a happy time.

I had planned to write a card of thanks to each and every person who had either called or written or attended the services, however, if I missed you, I hope you will take this letter as my way of saying thanks to you. I thank you, my family thanks you, for the strong support you showed us in this tragic event in our lives.

Yours in Comradeship,
Bernie Chase

AN EPITAPH

Here rests her head upon the lap of earth
A youth to fortune and to fame unknown.
Fair science frowned not on her humble birth
And melancholy marked her not.

Large was her bounty, and her soul sincere,
She gave to misery all she had,
a tear,
And she gained from heaven all she wished,
a friend.

No farther seek her merits to disclose,
Or draw her frailties from their abode,
There they alike in hope repose
The bosom of her Father and her God.

Thomas Gray (1751)

EDITOR'S NOTE: On behalf of the staff of the Americal Newsletter I would like to express to Bernie and his family our deepest sympathy at this time of great sorrow. You are in our thoughts and our prayers. Any loss of a loved one is difficult accept and impossible to understand.

Time takes toll on Final reunion plans of anti-tank company

CAMP EDWARDS -- When they first met at Camp Edwards in 1941, there were 200 of them -- eager young boys from the street corners of Medford, Everett, Charlestown and Haverhill.

Now there are fewer than 50, and of that only 26 will be able to attend the reunion at Camp Edwards.

The evening of Oct. 13 will be a time for bittersweet memories for surviving members of the anti-tank company of the 182nd Infantry Regiment "Americal" Division. The group trained at Camp Edwards before being sent to the Pacific during World War II.

"This will be our last," says Gregory Karahalas of Falmouth of the reunion dinner planned for that evening. "This will be the last time the boys of the anti-tank company get together for a reunion."

"It's kind of sad," says the former Medford resident, now retired to Falmouth. "But we have a lot of good memories and the kind of friendships that lasted a lifetime. How many people can say that? Each year a couple of us die. Some are no well enough to travel. So this is the last reunion."

The 182nd Infantry arrived at Camp Edwards on Jan. 16, 1941, and left one year later for places like New Caledonia and Guadalcanal.

"We were just kids when we first got there (Camp Edwards)," says Karahalas. "But out there in the South Pacific, boy we grew up pretty quick."

"You should have seen (Camp Edwards) when we first got here," he says. "Barracks, barracks, and more barracks, guys playing cards and some of the most questionable food you could ever run into. But there, and then under fire in the South Pacific, we made the kind of friendships you die for."

Because the former anti-tank company will not be having any more reunions, says Karahalas, the \$1,000 or so left in the company's treasury "will be put to some good use."

"I'd kind of like to see us donate it to the Soldier's Home in Chelsea, in memory of Lt. John P. Stabile," he says.

Stavile, a former football star from Medford and later Middlebury College in Vermont, was killed in action on Guadalcanal.

"I think we should remember him and what he gave up for this country," says Karahalas. "I like to think that maybe people will remember us too after the reunions end."

CAPE COD TIMES
October 3, 1988

COVER STORY

Aviation support was organic to the Americal Division during the Vietnam War. The 16th Aviation Group, composed of the 14th Combat Aviation Battalion and the 123rd Aviation Battalion provided this support.

On the cover, helicopters assigned to the 176th Aviation Company, 14th Combat Aviation Battalion, fly over the beach at Chu Lai after returning from a successful mission.

The 176th was based next to Battalion HQ at the south end of the Chu Lai compound directly across from the Marine bomb dump.

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

Fellow A.D.V.A. Members:

The article below appeared in ARMY magazine. It was written by one of our members, Jim (Pigman) Crum. He's a guy that I'm sure all you ex-grunts who did time with the 196th will know. He did such a good job with this article, I think the man should take up writing for a living. My hat's off to you, Pigman!!!

Ron

It is with great interest that I read ARMY magazine each month. The articles on Vietnam are always most interesting, but in the recent issues, the articles on the M60 have taken priority.

My name is Pigman because my M60 was called The Pig. I served with B Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, 196th Infantry Brigade from November 1968 to June 1969.

In the June issue, the letter from Major David W. Barno and Lt. Colonel Robert Fairchild, "Back to the Basics," caused me to smile, but then I became concerned. I am sure that every green troop knows the characteristics of the M60. That is not enough. The green troop must also know that the M60 is the best weapon the Grunt has and must earn the M60's respect. The green troop must know that the M60 is capable of gaining up to 100 pounds on any given day and can reach out and grab every clinging vine in a triple canopy jungle.

The green troop must work with the M60 until he can assemble and disassemble it blindfolded. The M60 must become an extension of one's body, because will become part of one's very soul.

In training, it is difficult to create the scenario consistent with gaining the M60's respect. How many of the green troops have seen what the weapon can do to a human body? How many of the green troops have saved the lives of comrades stuck half-way across a rice field?

Unfortunately, the best training is in combat. When the Army can duplicate that scenario, I will reenlist, as the demand for a Pigman in civilian life is minimal.

James (Pigman) Crum

RIDE FOR FREEDOM

Dear Fellow Americans:

Last year we started a Freedom March and Rolling Thunder I in Washington, D.C. for the release of our POW's still in Southeast Asia. We had a peaceful march and ride. The time we spent on this issue was well worth it, but support was few. We had about 4,000 bikers and 8,000 vets and supporters. We are again in '89 marching for the release of our POW's on May 27, 1989. Rolling Thunder II will follow on the next day. We need everyone's support and presence in Washington for those two days, for our brothers who were left POW's in the past wars.

It's about time we let our government know we're tired of them leaving LIVE AMERICANS in POW camps after a war. Whose children will be left behind as POW's after the next war, yours or mine? Well, we know it won't be the politicians' son or daughter.

We ask that you bring POW/MIA flags, American and State flags, etc., form bus trips with civic and vet groups, etc.

(continued on next page)

RIDE FOR FREEDOM (continued)

Remember, they fought for you, and now its time to fight for their return. We owe it to their families. Let's fill Washington, D.C., and show the government that we don't forget. Let's be the lion that roared.

Come on America, let's give it the American spirit in May for POW/MIA's. Please be in Washington and show your support.

Ray Manzo
1st Marine Division



WASHINGTON, D.C.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
MAY 27, 28, 1989

MAY 27 -- March for Freedom
Assemble at the Lincoln Memorial 9:00 a.m.

MAY 28 -- Rolling Thunder II, A Run to the Wall
Assemble at N. Pentagon Parking Lot 9:00 a.m.

For the release of our Prisoners of War
SUPPORT THE MISSING SERVICE PERSONNEL ACT

Ray Manzo Arti Muller Jim Gregory

Dear Ron:

Just a quick note to enclose an article possibly for the Americal Newsletter. What a bummer, huh? The death certificate will say shooting, but we know that it was Nam as cause of death. Toss in a little alcoholism and possibly drugs. What's new, huh? I wonder how the other My Lai guys are doing. Till next time, hump a lite rucksack for life.

Greg Cook
C Company 2/1 Infantry

(Continued in next column)

VIETNAM NEWS, continued

EDITOR'S NOTE: The article Greg refers to was enclosed, but would not reproduce well enough for printing in the Newsletter. Below, however, are excerpts from that story.

Haunted by My Lai memories, homeless vet dies in shooting

PITTSBURGH (AP)--Robert W. T'Souvas died a bum, a homeless 39-year-old man shot in the head after arguing over a bottle of vodka under a downtown bridge.

Relatives say life had mostly been downhill for T'Souvas in the nearly two decades since he was charged with killing two Vietnamese children in what came to be known as the My Lai massacre.

Charges against T'Souvas were dropped after the acquittal of two other enlisted men and the conviction of Lt. William Calley Jr., one of the officers at My Lai.

"He had problems with Vietnam over and over. He didn't talk about it much. But he had problems," said his father, William T'Souvas, of San Jose, Calif. "He lasted 20 years, but he was walking a tight line," the elder T'Souvas said.

T'Souvas was one of nine enlisted men charged with killing civilians. Two of the soldiers were acquitted and the charges against T'Souvas and six others were dropped. All were given honorable discharges.

Kathleen T'Souvas was charged with criminal homicide and is being held without bail at the Allegheny County Jail.

Kathleen T'Souvas, who was not legally married to T'Souvas, was an out-of-work carnival worker T'Souvas met about four years ago.

"She was more like a buddy than a wife, a drinking buddy," his father said.

Police said Kathleen's diary showed they lived in a van, sold their blood for money and worked part-time in a food kitchen for the homeless.

The couple argued over a bottle of vodka T'Souvas had. Police said the woman took a friend's .22-caliber gun and shot T'Souvas once in the head.

T'Souvas, never legally divorced, had a wife and family in Georgia.

VIETNAM, the magazine

Under the general heading of "What's it all mean?" we have the Vietnam War industry, including Vietnam, a slick and four-color quarterly magazine that seems to depend for support entirely on advertisements for replica weapons, replica medals and even "Official Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bronze," although the publishers apparently turned down an advertisement for "A Piece of the Wall," sandblasted chip of black glass intended to be an ersatz bit of vicarious vandalism. The whole industry is reported thoughtfully in the Jan. 16 Newsweek, until you get to the last three lines. "The charges of exploitation won't go away. But perhaps that's not all bad. The old-fashioned American impulse to make a profit from the Vietnam experience may be one sign the country is finally coming to terms with the war." The charges shouldn't go away. It's all bad. And the impulse to profit (including the Boston Publishers/Time Inc. Vietnam series hawked on television these days) is about five years old, not long enough to give it moral suasion. When I want yuppie insight, I'll ask for it, not read it in what used to be a news magazine.

M.R. Montgomery
THE BOSTON GLOBE

VIETNAM NEWS, continued

THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL
MOVING WALL COMES TO THE BRONX

A major event will occur in the Bronx during July with the arrival of The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall. The date for this event will be July 12 through July 18, 1989.

The Moving Wall is a 1/2 size replica of the Wall in Washington, D.C. This is the first time that the wall will be in this part of the state. Many groups will be involved with this program, both veterans and concerned citizens. The chairpersons for this event are Ronald Lipschitz, Chairperson Bronx County Vietnam Veterans Membership Committee for Jewish War Veterans and Patrick Devine, Chairperson of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park and past Bronx County Commander of the American Legion.

The location of the wall will be the Bicentennial Veteran's Memorial Park in Throggs Neck.

Anyone wishing to make a donation should make checks payable to B.V.M.P., Inc. or to volunteer, should contact the chairperson at the following address:

B.V.M.P., Inc. Wall

██████████
Bronx, NY 10456
or call Pat Devine at ██████████

Thank you,
Ron Lipschitz
Chairperson
11th LIB, Vietnam

VIETNAM VETERANS REUNION

Dear Ron Ward:

Here, another Vietnam Veterans Reunion is planned. I hope some of our Americal Members will be there, especially members of the 1/2 Cav. Enclosed are my dues for this year. You are doing a great job.

Terry Babler

"89 V. V. R."

1989 VIETNAM VETERANS REUNION

JUNE 30 thru JULY 3 1989

WATERLOO, IOWA

FOR MORE INFORMATION WRITE

do

"89 V. V. R."

WATERLOO, IOWA 50704

FOR RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

HOLIDAY INN REGISTRATION

CIVIC CENTER

4TH AND COMMERCIAL

WATERLOO, IOWA 50704

(Continued in next column)

VIETNAM NEWS, continued



TROOP F 17TH CAV
196th Light Infantry Brigade
will be holding a reunion
from April 27 through April
30, 1989, in Washington, DC.
Former troopers interested
should send their name,
wife's name, and address to
Dave Bush, 417 Washington

Street, Apt. #3, Watertown New York 13601, to be placed on the mailing list.

The 196th Light Infantry
Brigade Association
Fifth National
Reunion

The 5th Annual Reunion of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade Association will be held at the Holiday Inn of Sommerville, Mass., on July 13 through 15, 1989. In the past years, the reunions have always been a success at the following locations:

1982-Jasper, IN: 1983-Lansing, MI:
1985-Washington, DC: 1987-Cincinnati, OH.

The upcoming 1989 reunion in the Boston/Fort Devens area is expecting participation so surpass all the previous ones. For information contact:

Bill Knight

Winslow, IN 47598

Mike Ruane

W. Long Branch, NJ 07664

HAYDEN WALKS OUT ON TALK
SHOW WHEN VETERAN REFUSES
HAND SHAKE

Richard Keeton wasn't bucking for a commendation when he refused to shake Tom Hayden's hand. It was just a matter of principle.

"I feel that he committed treason," said Keeton of Hayden's anti-war activities and subsequent visit to Hanio with actress-wife Jane Fonda during the Vietnam War.

Keeton, a Vietnam vet from Federal Way and chairman of the state Veterans of Foreign Wars POW-MIA Committee, recently received a certificate of commendation from the national commander of the VFW for refusing to shake Hayden's hand before the start of a radio talk show on which both were appearing.

Keeton and Hayden were scheduled to discuss "Vietnam: What Do We Tell Our Kids?" on KIRO's "Mid-Day Program," but Hayden, who had arrived late, left the station when Keeton wouldn't shake hands.

"I was willing to discuss the subject with him but I wasn't going to extend the hand of friendship to him," Keeton said.

The story of Keeton's confrontation with Hayden went worldwide over the wire services.

"It got a lot bigger than I thought it would," Keeton said.

Apparently word reached national VFW headquarters and a national officer was dispatched to present Keeton, a member of the Federal Way VFW Post, with a commendation.

Keeton currently is helping organize a dedication ceremony for a permanent POW flag and monument in Olympia on Sept. 16.

THE TRIBUNE, July 30, 1988
San Gabriel Valley

LETTERS FROM MEMBERS

Company B 182 Infantry

Dear Jim:

I was reading my Americal Newsletter this afternoon and found your cover story quite interesting.

I don't want you to think I'm a know-it-all, but I think you left out a few ships in that 6814-A convoy. To start with, the S.S. Argentina was the flag ship. I don't remember two of the ships you mention, the Barry and the Ericson, but the other ones were the Cristobal, MacAndrew, Santa Elena, Santa Rosa, and the Kingsholm. From what I hear, the Argentina sunk in the Bismark Sea. It was on its way back from its second trip to the Pacific.

Do you remember how long it took us to reach Australia---43 DAYS! I think we were all sea worthy by then.

I was on the Cristobal from Australia to New Caledonia. Do you all remember what ship you were on?

It was a long time ago, but I just can't forget the times we had on those ships. We had two men buried at sea on our ship.

I guess that's about all for now. Please write an answer to all of this. Hope to see you sometime at Fort Devens.

Art Pope
Life Member ADVA

EDITOR'S NOTE: The seven ships that I named in the cover story were the Argentina, Barry, Cristobal, Ericson, McAndrew, Santa Elena, and the Santa Rosa. These are the names as they are listed in the Americal Division History, UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS. The mix-up comes in the fact that some of the ships were known by the soldiers that sailed on them by the names they saw on board the ship and not the official names given to them as an Army transport. For instance--I believe the Ericson was the Army name for the Kungsholm--this was the slowest ship in our convoy. I have a book that gives the names of all the Navy transports but have found one giving the Army transports.

I believe the Argentina survived the war. I think she was the ship that brought the first load of war brides from Europe following the war.

Do any of our readers have further information on these transports?

Jim

101 QUARTERMASTER REGIMENT

Dear Jim:

The cover picture and story in the Jan-Feb issue brought back some memories.

I sailed out of New York on the Santa Elena to Melbourne, Australia. After unloading the ship, we reloaded and sailed to New Caledonia on the Santa Rosa.

My outfit was the Med Det 101 Quartermaster.
(continued in next column)

(LETTERS, continued)

The trip over on the Santa Elena was something nobody could ever forget--the crowded conditions and the bad food. Does anyone remember the boiled eggs with completely formed chicks inside? I lost twenty-five pounds going over.

The snaps should prove interesting as they were taken on Guadalcanal. The bare boy is Frank Diorio, Company B, 101 QM. The test is Father Dunford's Shrine. The fellow holding up the outboard motor is Paul Santogeanis and the truck, half buried in mud, is on the road leading to our camp.

I enjoy the Newsletter very much.

Yours in Comradeship
Howie Travis

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sorry, but the snaps would not reproduce well. If you do not want them back, I will give them to the Museum.

Jim

147 INFANTRY ANTI-TANK COMPANY

Dear Sr:

Sick...Lame...or Lazy Report:

Jesse E. Hare

██████████
Morrisville, PA 19067
Tele. ██████████

A veteran of World War II, who served with the 147 Infantry RCT. A veteran of Guadalcanal and a member of ADVA, fell on February 4, 1989, and broke his left ankle. Hare is laid up at home in a cast. He says that his wife, Freda, and their daughter are giving him plenty of TLC. But he would appreciate hearing from his buddies in the ADVA.

William M Chaney
ADVA Life Member

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks for the ads, Bill. I'll pass them on to our purchasing agent.
Jim

THE 196TH LIB LOCATE-A-BROTHER

Sirs:

Enclosed please find a check for my 1989 dues.

I would like to thank Ron Ward and everyone who has continued to do an outstanding job on the Americal Newsletter and all other functions!

Also, a very special thanks for your efforts in assisting us in reuniting so many of our comrades.

A Grunt,
Pigman
THE 196TH LIB LOCATE-A-BROTHER
Jim "Pigman" Crum
██████████
Canal Fulton, Ohio 44614

Co. B 1/52 198 LIB

Dear Mr. Chase:

Last year I moved to Roanoke from Alaska. My wife's father is General Earl Acuff, retired. His
(continued on page 11)

AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION

SOUTH EAST CHAPTER

Homosassa Springs, Fl. 32647

The National Convention for 1989 will be held at the Delta Court of Flags, on June 1, 2, 3 & 4, in Orlando, Florida, set on 25 beautifully landscaped acres, this 800 room resort and conference hotel is the perfect place for our convention. The hospitable staff will assist where ever necessary. The management is working on a program for all to be in the same building, with a meeting room, a hospitality room, banquet hall and swimming pool.

General Crosbie (Butch) Saint has been contacted to be our guest speaker. He is a former Americal man and we are waiting for his reply.

Reservations will be made directly with the Delta Court of Flags. The price will be \$392.- per couple or \$292.- for a single. Package price include 3 breakfasts, 3 dinners, banquet and dance, open bar Saturday night for one hour, accommodations for three nights, meeting space, taxes and gratuities. Room rates three days prior and after our stay will be \$55.-plus tax. Reservations must be received before May 1st and a deposit of \$55.- is required.

A registration fee of \$10.- per person is required and sent to Tom McQuade, Box 3435, Apt. 626, Nelcrest, Fl. 33856. Children 18 or under stay free with parents and meals will be worked out with the hotel.

The annual meeting will be held at 10:00AM on Friday and the banquet will be held at 7:00PM Saturday evening. For reservations, mail to: Delta Court of Flags, 5715 Major Boulevard, Orlando, Florida 32819-7988. Telephone- 305-351-3340. Major credit cards accepted. For Registration Fee mail to: Thomas McQuade, Box 3435, Apt. 626, Nelcrest, Fl. 33856.

Direction from Airport: Take the Beeline Expressway (in front of airport) to Interstate 4 heading East to Exit #30 B on SR 435. Stay in right lane and turn right at first traffic light. Hotel is just ahead on right. From Interstate 4, Westbound: (Toward Tampa), Exit 30 B on SR 435 North, on right hand exit ramp. Stay in right lane and turn right at first traffic light (Major Boulevard). Hotel is just ahead on your right. From Interstate 4 Eastbound: (Toward Daytona Beach) Exit 30B on SR 435 North, on left hand exit ramp. Go over bridge and move to right lane. Turn right at first traffic light (Major Boulevard). Hotel is just ahead on your right. From Florida Turnpike: (South bound and Northbound) Take exit 75. After Toll Plaza take I-4 west ramp.. Once on I-4 westbound, take exit 30B on SR 435 North. Stay in right lane and turn right at first traffic light (Major Boulevard). Hotel is just ahead on your right.

Mail to Reservations Manager (For Americal
Delta Court of Flags Convention)
Orlando, Florida 32819-7988
Number of people attending:
Arrival date _____ Departure _____
Name _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

For Registration: Mail to:
Thomas McQuade
Nelcrest, Florida 33856
Number of people attending: _____
DELTA HALL OF FLAGS
RESERVATION

URGENT--ROOMS GOING FAST! LIMITED NUMBERS REMAIN--RESERVE NOW!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday	June 1	3:00PM -7:00PM	Registration
		6:00PM -7:00PM	Wine & Cheese Party
		7:00PM -9:00PM	Dinner
Friday	June 2	7:00AM -9:00AM	Breakfast
		10:00AM-11:00AM	Meeting
		5:00PM -10:00PM	Memorial Services, Dinner
Saturday	June 3	7:00AM -9:00AM	Breakfast
		6:00PM -7:00PM	Open Bar
		7:00PM -8:00PM	Banquet and Cash Bar
Sunday	June 4	8:00PM -12:00 M.	Dance
		7:00AM -9:00AM	Breakfast
		9:00AM -10:00AM	Church Services

Distances from the Court of Flags:

Orlando Airport	20 mins.	Universal Studios	5 mins.
DisneyWorld	15 mins.	Wet'Wild	5 mins.
Epcot Center	15 mins.	International Drive	5 mins.
Busch Gardens	2 hrs.	Sea World	10 mins.
Cypress Gardens	1 hr.	Convention Ctr.	5 mins.
Kennedy Space Ctr.	1 hr.	Outlet Malls	5 mins.
Boardwalk Baseball	30 mins.		

If further information is desired, contact:

Edwin Heartquist
Tarnon Shores Mobile Home Park
Tarpon Springs, Fl.
Arthur R. Wood
Homosassa Springs, Florida 32647
Tel: 33589

Mrs. David Rossi is in charge of the women's program

URGENT--ROOMS GOING FAST! LIMITED NUMBERS REMAIN!

MAIL YOUR RESERVATION IN TODAY!

(LETTERS, continued)

good friend is General W.B. Rosson, the architect and first Commander of Task Force Oregon, Vietnam.

It means a lot to me as a former Army Sgt., Squad Leader in B Co. 198th LIB 1968 to meet anyone from the Americal. Especially former commanders, who on my level of the chain of command I never saw, let alone meet.

When my father-in-law introduced me to General Rosson on his patio at a relaxed family gathering, it was impossible to do anything but come to attention, then a relaxed parade rest as he asked about my time in Vietnam. He just looked like a General should look. Even in civilian clothes, twenty plus years after my time in the service.

Rather than ask him to sign up, perhaps we at the American Division Veterans Association could. He's a very warm person and I would bet that he would like to know about the A.D.V.A. Perhaps it will encourage other ranking officers to join along with all of us. The details of the Americal's history in Vietnam would be invaluable and exciting to hear.

Sincerely
Michael Schass

EDITOR'S NOTE: We have sent General Rosson an invitation to join our association and anxiously await his reply.

BRTY B 246TH F.A.

Dear Sir:

I'm sending in this letter a check for \$50.00 to complete my Life Membership payment. Also I noticed in the last Newsletter under New Life Members you had my address as ME. It should be Nebraska. I'd like to have you change this as I have not been able to contact anyone I served with while on Cebu Island, except for one other buddy, and we have been trying to locate some of the other guys who were with B Battery 246 F.A. on Cebu. Most of them were from the East or South.

One other thing, I sent a money order to Ken Turner back in November for a book UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS and so far I have not heard from him. However, I will write to him and see if he is having trouble getting it.

Thank you,
Bob Keeken
[redacted]
Cambridge, NE 69022
[redacted]

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sorry for the mistake with your address, this should take care of the problem and the book should be on your shelf by now.

D Company 4/21 INF

Dear Membership Chairman:

Please advise me on how I can obtain information, names, addresses, etc, on any members who were in Delta Company, 4/21 Infantry especially during the years 1968-1970.

Any help will be greatly appreciated. I enclosed twenty dollars in case the dues have been
(continued in next column)

(LETTERS, continued)

increased lately. If not, put the balance to good use.

Thanks a million,
John C. Beitzel
205 Martins Run
Media, PA 19063

EDITOR'S NOTE: John, our rules forbid us to give out members names and addresses. We hope that by printing you letter here some of your pals of Delta Company will contact you.

Company A 182nd INF

Dear Bernie:

I hope these few lines find you and yours in the best of health. I'm in good health, thanks to our good Lord.

Bernie, as of now I have not received any information on the Reunion in Florida in June. I read all the Newsletters that are mailed to me. I read them from front to back, always hoping to see the names of some of the guys that were in A Company of the 182nd, especially the 1st Platoon. Well Bernie, hope to hear from you, the best to you and your family.

Always,
Eligio A. Garcia
(Angel)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Angel, the information you sought was in the last Newsletter, also this one. Your buddies from A Company were in Carlisle last year, and I expect they will be in Florida in June.

C Btry. 3/16 Arty.

I'm sorry it took so long for me to send my dues in. So I hope a little extra will help. I want to tell you how I always look forward to the next Americal Newsletter. Oh by the way, I sold my truck that I had my (our) Southern Cross decal on the window. I was wondering if I could get another one.

Leonard Clay

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks for the extra money, we will put it in the Americal Museum Fund. Your decal is on the way

182nd INF

Dear Sir:

I'm enclosing a check for partial payment of Life Membership dues. In September 1988 I sent a check for \$37.00. Is any of this applied to Life Membership dues? How much more do I owe? I'm enclosing a check for \$38.00, presuming this completes payment. If not, please inform me as to what I owe.

Thanking you,
Arthur Pope

EDITOR'S NOTE: Arthur, your last payment makes you a paid up member.

(continued on next page)

(LETTERS, continued)

57th Combat Engineers

Bernie:

Happy New Year! Enclosed are my dues. Are your files computerized? If so, would it be possible to get a list of members from the 57th Combat Engineers?

If not, could a note be put in the next Newsletter asking any one from the 57th to drop me a line?

Thanks
Maurice M. Kotz
[redacted]
Minneapolis, MN 55416

EDITOR'S NOTE: Okay, you guys from the 57th, drop Maurice a line.

26th Signal

Dear Bernie:

Thanks again for your help to me in all I try to do at the National Cemetery Joint Veterans Committee, and your support of me at the American Legion, and our own local Americal Division Cape Cod Chapter. You do a great job in all that you under take.

Enclosed is my check for 1989 dues. See you at the March meeting at the National Cemetery. Say hello to the gang for me.

Yours in Comradeship,
Dick Gallant

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dick, the Veterans of New England say thanks for all the hard work you put in on their behalf.

23rd Admin. Co.

Dear Jim:

Just a short note to let you know I hope to be in Florida with my wife for the next Reunion. I really enjoy reading the A.D.V.A. Newsletter. I'm enclosing my dues for 1989.

As Ever A Brother,
[redacted]
U.S. Army MDG (Ret)

180th F.A.B.N.

Dear James Buckle:

The 180th FABN was berthed on the Santa Elena as was Chaplain John S. Franklin.

Also, the day Carolina maneuvers were over in 1941 was the day that I was drafted into service at Monroe, NC. A few weeks later I arrived at Camp Edwards and TF6814.

I plan to attend the Americal Division F.A. reunion May 3,4,5,6 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

(continued in next column)

(LETTERS, continued)

Would like to hear from any of the fellows of B-180th, TF6814 or the Carolina maneuvers. Monroe, Concord, the PeeDee River and the Yadkin River are near by to me.

James R. Hartis
[redacted]
Indian Trail, NC 28079

20th Infantry

Dear James:

Received your letter and sure was glad to hear from you. There has been a few of the guys from Delta Company 1/20th that got in touch with me. There were only about two or three. I know I shouldn't ask this of you, but could you please send me their addresses or put a notice on the board about the reunion that I am trying to put together and put my address with it. Sure would appreciate it very much. Also, there was a friend of mine killed in April of 1971. He was Lt. Hata. Would you please run that in your newsletter. Don't know any more to say. Next month I will send money for a copy of your newsletter.

Thank you,
Jerry Hayes
[redacted]
Spokane, Wash. 99207

EDITOR'S NOTE: Jerry, we cannot give our addresses but hope that by running your letter you will get the information you want.

G Co. 182nd Inf.

Dear Jim:

I wish to commend you on the fine job you perform in editing the Newsletter. I read it with great interest and I find it astonishing that you get such a great response from members all over the country. Those stories are all interesting and historical.

As a member at the time of the Division's formation, I was not overly impressed with the fact that it was made up of regiments from different parts of the U.S. However, from reading your Newsletter it becomes most impressive to hear from men from the mid and far west.

As company commander of G Company, taking over from Al Marion at Edwards, we led the Regiment in crossing the Matanikow River. I left the company to Don Ray and moved up to Regt. Hqs. in Fiji.

I wish to contribute to the fund for erection of a monument dedicated to the memory of our departed comrades, check enclosed.

I particularly enjoyed your story on your recent visit to Guadalcanal. The heat and humidity there was almost unbearable then.

Best Wishes,
Elmer Mitchell
[redacted]
Westore, Mass.

196TH VETS GO TO THE WALL



Members of the 196th LIB Veterans Association
at The Wall, Veterans Day 1988

OUR HONORED DEAD

Memorial Day is the day on which our country pays tribute to those Americans who have died on the field of battle. It is a reminder that the price of winning and defending freedom is high. More than a million members of our armed forces have made the supreme sacrifice for their country.

As we honor those dead we know that we cannot discharge our solemn obligation to them with mere words of praise. They did not die for words. They gave their lives for the right of people every where to be free and to help insure freedom for future generations.

The American soldier is fighting and dying in Vietnam in the same selfless way as he has fought and died in other wars on other distant battlefields. We who are fortunate enough to be alive owe an everlasting debt of pride and gratitude to our fallen comrades. They shall not be forgotten.

LTG. Bruce Palmer, Jr.
Deputy CG, USARV
THE ARMY REPORTER, May 27, 1967

AMERICAL HAPPENINGS



L to R: Brook, Keith Payne (Victoria Cross), John Vaca (Medal of Honor), Nobby Clark

ADVA member Ray Kiefer recently returned from a Vietnam Vets rally in Australia. He attended with his buddy, John Vaca - M.O.H. Winner, 1st Cav Div. in Vietnam. John threw himself on a grenade to save some buddies...and lived, though badly wounded. He was smart enough to cover the grenade with his steel pot beforehand. Vaca is holding our banner in the photo along with an Australian vet who won the Victoria Cross in Vietnam.

Ray Kiefer is a five-Purple Heart vet and is 100% disabled as is Vaca.

24-HOURS-A DAY
DUSTOFF SAVES LIVES

"Dustoff Control, this is Dustoff. Arriving in zero-five minutes with three WIAs. Literally hundreds of times during the past 8 months, calls similar to this one have been received by Dustoff Radio.

When a call comes to Dustoff, less than 10 minutes is needed to get a chopper airborne. This means that casualties are receiving the best medical care available in a matter of minutes.

THE CHARGER, March 25, 1967

VETERANS DAY MEETING



John Halachis (left) Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Robert Thornton (right) National Commander of the ADVA met on December 19, 1988, to plan Veterans day.



TRUNG LIÊN ĐỦ LOẠI



7.500\$

BẠN CÓ THỂ DÙNG TRUYỀN ĐƠN NÀY NHƯ
MỘT GIẤY THÔNG HÀNH. KHÔNG CÓ THÔNG
HÀNH BẠN VẪN ĐƯỢC TIẾP ĐÓN NÔNG HẬU.

The Chieu Hoi program in Vietnam was effective in reducing the strength of NVA and VC units throughout the country. This Chieu Hoi leaflet offers a reward to the Chieu Hoi who brings with him an enemy machine gun.

SOUTHEAST CHAPTER CONVENTION



Officers and members of the Southeast Chapter, Americal Division Veterans Association held their convention in Orlando, FL, in November 1988.



L to R: Patrick Faring, now of Punta Gorda, FL, Russell Blake of Sarasota, FL, Edward Demambro of Orlando, FL., first time together in over 40 years. All three were in the Water Hole trap during the Matanikau Offensive on Guadalcanal, but that's another long story these three can relate. Said they, "It was great to meet someone you thought was dead."

(more on next page)

DON'T FORGET...
PLAN NOW...

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION FOR 1989 will be held at the Delta Court of Flags, Orlando, Florida, on June 1, 2, 3, & 4.
Registration fee is \$10.00 per person.

(SOUTHEASTERN CONVENTION, continued)



L to R: Russell Blake of Sarasota, FL, Richard Comeau of Beverly Beach, FL (the present mayor of that community), and Bill Dumphy of West Roxbury, MA, meet at the New Watering hole during the convention in Orlando.

THE WATER HOLE 1943

It was not until January 21, 1943, that enemy opposition to a U.S. advance through the Water Hole was finally overcome. During attempts to reduce Japanese resistance in its sector, the 182nd Infantry suffered numerous casualties. Heroic rescues of the wounded under fire became almost commonplace, but one act of bravery by First Sgt. James J. Gaffney of Lowell, Mass., was among the most noteworthy. In the midst of a heavy downpour of enemy mortar fire, Gaffney sprinted some two hundred yards through the impact area to rescue an officer who proved later to have been fatally wounded. After returning to his position and leaving the officer to be treated by aid men, the Sergeant sprinted back through the barrage again to reestablish disrupted wire communications, thereby allowing operations against the Japanese to continue in full force.

NEW BOOK ABOUT GUADALCANAL

GUADALCANAL--THE ISLAND OF FIRE: REFLECTIONS OF THE 347TH FIGHTER GROUP by Robert L. Ferguson is a gripping account of the six desperate months of combat at Guadalcanal by a pilot who fought through it from the beginning.

One of the greatest battles of World War II was the campaign for control of the Solomon Island of Guadalcanal. This is the story of the 67th Pursuit Squadron--the "Gamecocks"--and the other squadrons of the 347th Fighter Group of the U.S. Army Air Corps. Hers is one fighter pilot's first-hand

(continued in next column)

(NEW BOOK, continued)

view of this bitterly fought struggle, which began over 45 years ago, on August 7th, 1942, just eight months after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

Ill-equipped, living on captured enemy rice, and subject to around-the-clock attack from Japanese aircraft, shelling from Japanese warships, and sniper fire from enemy soldiers in the surrounding jungle, the beleaguered Americans somehow maintained a precarious toehold on this strategically located island.

How well they fought, against such great odds, and under such impossible conditions is recorded in this compelling book. John G. Bouker, Major General, US Marine Corps (Ret) describes the book as "an extremely moving, firsthand account of a part of World War II which has received little attention from historians. It has to be a valuable addition to existing literature on the war in the Pacific."

This on-the-scene report is unusually detailed because the author maintained a diary during the months at Guadalcanal. And never-before-published photos taken by the author during the combat further enhance this gripping book.

The Guadalcanal campaign is surely one of the proudest chapters in the annals of World War II history. This carefully prepared volume is a fitting tribute to the brave pilots who made the US victory possible.

Ferguson, a native of Massachusetts and a former member of the 110 CAV MNG was part of the original TF6814 as well.

The book is available from TAB BOOKS, Inc., PO Box 40, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214 and costs \$16.60, paperback only. If you're interested, the order number is 22389.

4/31 INFANTRY, POLAR BEARS

The colorful "Foreign Legion" of the U.S. Army began 42 years ago in the Philippine Islands when the new 31st Infantry was organized at Regan Barracks, Camp McGarth and Ft. McKinley.

The 31st was the first full infantry regiment ever assigned to the Philippines, and until 1958, it never had duty within the continental limits of the U.S.

The 31st wears a polar bear on its crest in recognition of its Siberian campaign--an unpleasant little war fought in Russia against a tough and elusive Red Army of Russian communists. It was the first time a regular U.S. force had ever engaged an organized Communist army.

Then in World War II, the "Polar Bears" were forced to withdraw at Bataan. The regimental colors were burned and the 31st was removed from the Army rolls. For its heroism in the defense of the Philippines, the 31st Infantry was awarded three Distinguished Unit Citations and a Philippine Presidential Unit Citation.

During the Korean War the reactivated 31st took part in the Inchon landing, helped recapture Seoul and fought at "Heartbreak Ridge" and "Pork Chop Hill."

The 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, was assigned to the 196th Brigade in Vietnam, and continued its fighting history in action

(continued on next page)

(4/31 INFANTRY, continued)

against the NVA in the Que Son Valley prior to the enemy Tet attacks, and participated in Operation Wheeler/Wallowa.

Seen here, a company from 4/31 moves through a village while on patrol in Vietnam.



BOUGAINVILLE, 1944 VALOR AT HILL 260

On 15 March in the shadow of Mount Bagana, Japanese mortar and machine gun fire was extremely heavy. Pfc. J.L. Swenson and other squad members were in a large emplacement. A Japanese knee mortar shell landed in the emplacement. Swenson threw himself on the shell and absorbed the full impact of the explosion. This act of valor saved the lives of his buddies. His wounds were severe and near fatal. For this exceptional act of heroism, Pfc. Swenson was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the 2nd highest decoration given in the U.S. military.

Swenson, a resident of Kearney, NE, was a member of the 132nd Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS
57TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
A.P.O. #716
JOURNAL OF THE COMBAT MISSIONS OF
COS "A" AND "B"
ON BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND
10 MARCH 1944 TO 30 MARCH 1944

(Continued from January/February 1989 issue)

March 12, At 0700 a call from S-4, 182nd Infantry, was received to furnish carrying details for rations and ammunition to supply the garrison on Hill 260 and evacuate wounded to the rear. Details were furnished. Privates Clement and Hanmett, Company "B", were WIA on the last detail. Lieutenant Dimond and part of Company "A" detail were used to re-enforce infantry positions on the hill when the Japs attempted to rush our positions. Pvts. Bills and Toth, Company "A", reported MIA at 1730. At 1830 Major Daler arrived with Companies "A" and "B", 132nd Infantry and was placed in command of the BSL and RRL by General McCullough. Company "A", 132nd Infantry, attempted to move immediately to the support of the garrison on Hill 260 but were hit by machine gun and mortar fire

(continued in next column)

57TH ENGINEERS, continued

which caused severe casualties, including the Company Commander, and necessitated retiring to the RRL for reorganization.

March 13, At 0530 Company "B" furnished carrying party of twenty men which made the trip to the top of Hill 260 and return without incident. At 1000 Lt. Schaer led a detail of forty men, twenty from Company "A" and twenty from Company "B", over the same route as the previous party and when about half way back they were hit by a concentration of Jap knee mortars wounding Pvt. Smith, Pfc. McCool, Cpls. Ferguson and Earalis, Tec. 5 Peterson, Sgt. Johnson and Pvt. Spezel. Lt. Dimond and Lt. Stretch who were at the foot of the trail went to their assistance with stretchers and while Lt. Dimond was administering first aid to one of the victims he was wounded in both legs by shell fragments. Pvt. Toth reported to Company "A" CP at 1000 after spending the night on Hill 260 with the infantry after he was cut off from his detail by machine gun fire. Pvt. Wright, Company "A" accidentally shot himself in the hand and wounded Pvt. Fuchilla when his piece discharged while preparing to clean it. At 1200 Company "B" moved into BSL of 1st Battalion 182nd Infantry. New supply trail was cut through at 1200, located on the opposite of Hill 260 from the Jap held positions. Company "B" furnished two carrying parties and Company "A" one which received no interference from enemy fire. At 1415 Major Daler was relieved of BSL and RRL and replaced by Major Lovejoy by command of General McCullough.

14 March, At 0800 Major Lovejoy relieved of RRL by Lt. Col. Lowery by command of General McCullough. Major Lovejoy placed in command of BSL. Company "A" moved up to support line. Carrying details assigned for day.

15 March, Carrying details assigned at 0800 and 1200. 1800 given counter attack plan by Major Mercereau, calling for counter attack by both Companies of Engineers in case of break through of the MLR. 2320 Pvt. Tanner, Company "B", accidentally killed by Pvt. Kokum (KIA).

(More from the 57th Engineers next month)

EDITOR'S NOTE: The above is a transcription of the original battalion reports. Since the copies are carbons of the originals--and 45 years old--some letters are smeared. Should the wrong company be noted or a name not spelled correctly, please forgive us.

"Sandy" Patch, "Pure Wildcat"

Lt. Gen. Alexander McCarrell "Sandy" Patch weighs only a little more than 150 pounds for his six feet of height, but they say its 150 pounds of "pure wildcat."

The Germans who were chased northward through France 300 miles in three weeks by his 7th Army and the French troops fighting with it would agree. So would the few survivors among the Japanese he mopped up on Guadalcanal after he relieved the Marines with his patch-work American (sic) Division.

(continued on next page)

"SANDY PATCH" continued

Enlisted men and junior officers swear by him. When he was in New Caledonia building the Americal Division out of a miscellaneous array of units originally intended for the Philippines and Australia he usually walked the mile between his headquarters and his own quarters.

"He'd often stop enlisted men on the street and ask them how things were going, what detail they were on and questions like that," said a man who served on the French island under him. "And he'd drop into the mess hall and find out what was cooking."

"I remember how a marine second lieutenant landed without the proper uniforms for the climate. The General went down to the store with him and saw that he got what he wanted."

There's a story about the time when he took one of his officers for a walk in the dark through a bivouac area the officer had chosen. As they passed some of the troops they heard a soldier say: "You can tell the --- who picked this area picked it in the dark."

"Now you know what they think of you," remarked Patch quietly to the officer.

He has a gift for diplomacy and teamwork. He's needed them. When he relieved the Marines on Guadalcanal he was in several senses on the spot. His outfit was taking over from an organization which had hung up an immortal record. Furthermore, he was an Army commander who much work in closest cooperation with the Navy. How well he did the job is indicated by the fact that he wound up the campaign in less than two months and the Navy gave him a Navy DSM for "brilliant tactical generalship" to add to the Army DSM he had been given some time before.

"Having sent Gen. Patch to do a tailoring job on Guadalcanal," said Admiral William F. Halsey Jr., "I am surprised and pleased at the speed with which he removed the enemy's pants to accomplish it."

Again when he was appointed to replace the brilliant fiery General George Patton Jr. as commander of the remade 7th Army he was again on something of a spot. Again he made good and again he showed his skill in teamwork, not only with the Allied naval forces which took part in the landing operations, but with the Fighting French forces from Africa and later with the French Forces from the Interior.

He has a dry sense of humor and likes to tell stories on himself. In 1933 for his Twenty Year Class Book at West Point he wrote a story called "How I became a Hero." It told of a young officer landing in France in 1917 very eager to distinguish himself. One day in a training area an air alarm was sounded. The young officer hurried to one of his machine guns, pushed aside the gunner, turned it on an approaching plane, and hit it much to his surprise. A little later an aid came to inquire from the officer in command of the machine gun detachment. The story goes on:

"Modestly I allowed my friends to push me forward. The aid saluted and said: 'The General's compliments, sir. He directs you to report to him now.'

"You have just shot down a French plane."

Patch said nothing in the year book about his fine combat record on the Aisne or the Marne, in the Meuse-Argonne and at St.

(continued in next column)

"SANDY" PATCH, continued

Mihiel.

"Sandy" Patch is 54, the son of a cavalry colonel and born at an Army post. His brother, Joseph, is a Major General. His wife, too, is "Army," Julia Littell, daughter of Gen. I.W. Littell, who was in the Quarter-master's Corps during World War I.

Their only son, Capt. Alexander McCarrell Patch III, was killed in action recently "while assaulting enemy positions in France," as an officer in the 1st. Army. Like his father, he married into an Army family. He left a son, less than two years old, Alexander McCarrell Patch IV. His sister, Julia Ann Patch is the General's only surviving child.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This wonderful article was sent to us by Arthur Guarente, 39th MP, WWII. He comments: "I remember him well because of a personal experience. He used to sport pearl handled revolvers and was a common sight in Noumea back in 1942." General Patch was the first Commanding General of the Americal Division.

FIRST TO FIGHT

By Sgt. Charles Wilson

Wagers of the first Army offensive against the Axis on any front and still out on the battle line as V-Days looms ahead, more jungle trekking than Dr. Livingstone ever presumed possible, more climbing than an alpine guide does in a lifetime--that's the Americal.

The Americal really began when Task Force 6814 was hastily rounded up on the heels of Pearl Harbour from NG units in the east and midwest and sent zigzagging out of Brooklyn under the shadow of a couple of Navy blimps. First they thought they were going to Ireland, then when the ditch at Panama was put behind, the Philippines became the rumored goal. But after 40 days of non-stop conveying it was the land of the Aussies that loomed on the western horizon for these pioneer SWP GI's of the dark days of early 1942. The P.I. landfall had been merely put off for three years for many a deck-weary sea marathoner.

Melbourne's clean streets and billets at Ballarat and Camp Darley, Bacchus March were seen only briefly but during those few days quarts of fresh milk and steaks off china plates were poured down many gullets which haven't had the same repeated for going on four years now. The beer lines at the Aussie canteens were long during the short evenings and those who had anything left to exchange for pounds and pence at the suffocating exchange clerk's desk gorged themselves with rich Aussie chocolate which puts the U.S. brand to shame, ginger beer and sent cablegrams.

Meanwhile, the Japs were menacing the "Treasure Island of the Pacific" just turned anti-Vichy even though everything around seemed going Axis. The Japs wanted "New Cal's" rich chrome and iron deposits. So that was where to go next, leaving really modern civilization behind for a great while to come.

Jap menaces seem long ago and far away (continued on next page)

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

Thursday, October 5, 1967

AMERICAL UNITS FACE SCATTERED CONTACTS

CHU LAI (IO)--Americal Division units engaged the enemy on all types of terrain as they killed 10 enemy in scattered contacts yesterday.

Paratroopers of the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne added seven enemy kills to the Operation Wheeler totals as elements of the brigade had five small-unit contacts in jungles and marshes west of Tam Ky.

At 11:50 a.m. an element of the 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry drew fire from a woodline as they attempted to cross a lowland marsh approximately 20 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Returning fire, the paratroopers killed five NVA and captured four weapons in the contact, including one AK-47, two SKS rifles and an M1 rifle. One paratrooper was wounded in the action.

Two other enemy were killed in isolated contacts.

BEATLES OFFERED A MILLION FOR 2 CONCERTS

London (AP)--The Beatles Wednesday studied a reported offer of one million dollars for one day's work in the United States.

But even that huge bait seemed unlikely to lure them back to giving a live stage show--at least for the present.

A spokesman told reporters he thought the Beatles would continue to rule out any personal appearances until they can devise a way to stage their current musical style. That's a sort of avant-garde pop with mystic Indian sounds.

STOKE'S VICTORY SIGNIFICANT

CLEVELAND, OH (AP)--Dr. Martin Luther King, head of the Souther Christian Leadership Conference, said Tuesday that the election of Carl B. Stokes as Democratic candidate for Mayor of Cleveland "made a significant step toward making America a color-blind society."

King, who has been in Cleveland for the last two days helping to get out voters in the Negro areas, issued a statement after Stokes' decisive victory over Mayor Ralph S. Locher, who was seeking a fourth term.

"The response of the citizens of Cleveland in electing Carl Stokes the Democratic nominee for Mayor was a vote for Democracy and against racism," the King statement said.

NAVY SKYDIVER SURVIVES 12,500 FOOT FALL

SAN DIEGO, CALIF. (AP)--A Navy skydiver survived a 12,500-foot fall Tuesday when his parachute malfunctioned and he hit the ground at about 85 miles an hour.

Boatswain's Mate First Class Joseph E. Thrift, 34, was reported in good condition by hospital officials.

He jumped out of a helicopter at 12,500 feet and executed a free fall of 10,000 feet. His main chute opened less than halfway.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks to Carl F. Cox, B Co., 8th Spt. Bn., 196th LIB, for this item.

FIRST TO FIGHT, continued

now, but Noumea harbor was entered with everyone wondering whether the Japs had already taken over. Instructions had been given to be ready to make a beach-head. But evidently the Nips hadn't gotten through.

Instead, 6814 was scattered the length and breadth of the 180-mile long island, until each doughfoot thought he was responsible for 10 square miles of coconut grove or coffee plantation himself, with a native village or two thrown in.

Over the radio in remote Touho, Hienghene, Voh, and other exotically named huts rifle-men, scouts, BAR men heard news which seemed to have Hitler and Co. taking over the world. Then came the battle of the Coral Sea and next 6814 became the nucleus of a newly activated division which was to go to Guadalcanal, the first move in the drive which was eventually to start the Axis toward the canvas for the long count.

When the call came for a name for the new outfit, a Signal Corps sergeant from Grove Hill, Mass. combined Americans and N. Cal. and came up with "Americal" and the American it became.

Oct. 13, 1942 was the day the first unit of the Americal landed on the "Canal" to aid the hard-pressed Marines on Henderson Field, to be followed by the remainder of the Division under Maj. Gen. Patch, now of the 7th Army.

Mt. Austin or "Grassy Knoll," Kokumbono, Tulagi, Cape Esperance are now part of the not so flowery memory lane of the Americal's charter members. After the island was secured in Feb. 1943, the Americal made ready to sail south once more, this time to Viti Levu, Fiji, where more jungle and hill scaling combat training, how to say "bula Van-aka," drink cava, and dance the tra-la-la were quickly assimilated.

But, as in 1942-43, the holidays of 1943-44 were spent in combat back in the Solomons on volcanic, shuddering Bougainville. Although around Hill 260, beneath its giant banyan tree, one company lost 83% of its men, the Japs in the final count lost 30 for every dead Yank on the Island. The continuous patrolling for the better part of year across dense undergrowth and slippery hillside, fording express train rapids, ferreting out a handful of Nips here, a score there, was worse than any pitched battle. One company, CO'd by one of its former privates, caught a company of Japs at breakfast, moved into their positions and wiped them out as they returned to occupy them.

When the Americal left for the Philippines it was especially satisfied about one thing--it had wiped out the Jap Sixth Division, responsible for the notorious rape of Nanking.

It's been a long three years, but just as the Japs swept south in the distant era when New Caledonia lay open to the Samurai sword, the Yanks are now sweeping north. And speaking from the depths of their experience in the deep Pacific below and above the equator, members of the Americal feel somehow that the effects of the sweep north are going to be a little more permanent.

THE AMERICAL

Sunday, Apr. 8, 1945

EDITOR'S NOTE: The article above was sent to the NEWSLETTER by Mike Buglione, 221st F.A., Battery B



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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.

Dedication

ADVA is dedicated as a *LIVING MEMORIAL* to all veterans of the Americal Division and is pledged to foster true American patriotism, social and welfare activities for all members, allegiance to the United States Government, and its flag, and to perpetuate the traditions and history of the Americal Division of the United States Army.

AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 1381, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02104

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name:		Telephone:	
Address — Street:		City:	State:
Zip:			
Americal Unit:	Rgt.	Bn.	Co/Bty.
Other:			
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 Initial Dues) \$16.00	

PLEASE: Attach a copy of the following information to your application.

1. DD 214 Form.

2. Officer's or Enlisted Report of Service and Honorable Discharge.

(All copies of records will be returned)