

★ GUADALCANAL

★ NORTHERN SOLOMONS

★ LEYTE

★ SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

★ VIETNAM



FOUNDED 1945

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1990

AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

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

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: JAMES C. BUCKLE

VIETNAM EDITOR: RONALD L. WARD
Published Bi-Monthly

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



MEDAL OF HONOR MEMBER

FINNIS D. McCLEERY

1990

NATIONAL OFFICERS
NATIONAL COMMANDER

Ronald L. Ward

St. Louis, MO 63123

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Roland T. Castronova

Peabody, MA 01960

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

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Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

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John LeVert

CHAPTER COMMANDERS

Allen D. Cappella Cape Cod Chapter
 Stephen Dennison Eastern Regional Chapter
 Edwin A. Heartquist South-East Chapter
 William K. Maddox South Mid-West Chapter
 Rush J. Propper Great Lakes Chapter
 Lloyd J. Morrell Far West Chapter

Because of a by-law change that was approved by a National Ballot, the duly elected Chapter Commanders are now automatically members of the Executive Council.

AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

James C. Buckle

Wakefield, MA 01880

VIETNAM EDITOR

Ronald L. Ward

St. Louis, MO 63123

SEE YOU IN HYANNIS IN JUNE OF 1991

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

As I prepare this, Veterans Day November 11 soon approaches. As in past years, many thousands of war veterans will assemble in Washington, D.C. to pay respects to our fallen comrades. Major ceremonies will take place at the Vietnam Memorial and at Arlington National Cemetery. Members of our ADVA will be presenting a floral wreath and our colors at the Wall. I anticipate a good showing by men who wore the Southern Cross on their shoulder.

After receiving my last newsletter from the guys at 196th Locate-A-Brother, I was pleased to learn that they decided to hold off on a 1991 reunion as it might conflict with reunions being held with our own Association as well as the 196th LIB Association. This cooperation among our brother organizations is well received. Financial and time restraints limit many of us from attending these events even though we would like to. One a year is tops for most of us. Special thanks are in order to Pigman and Tony for taking that fact into consideration.

Back in September at the Kokomo Vietnam vets reunion, I left a blue American Express travel bag at the Americal tent on the final night of the celebration. It was missing by morning and I sorely need a notebook that was in that bag. Over the weekend I had recorded names of some vets who wanted me to contact them concerning applications, buddy searches, etc.. If anyone salvaged that bag and doesn't know it's owner, now you do. There are some vets counting on me to write back and hate to let them down.

A special thank you is in order to two of our members who helped us organize our tent at the Kokomo reunion, Ron Davis and Bob Kasting. When I arrived in town, they had everything set up and made our presence very visible to all the Americal vets in attendance. Our Division had a turnout that would rival any of the other units and we'll continue that tradition in the future.

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

All Americal Division Veterans Association meeting, until May, will be held in the Provost Marshall's building at Fort Devens.

A notice will be posted on the Americal Museum door giving direction to the meeting point.

Letter of explanation follows on another page.

MONTHLY A.D.V.A. MEETINGS

December 9, 1990

Christmas Party, Hanscom Air Force Base
 1:00 P.M.

January 12, 1991

Americal Museum Ft. Devens, MA
 General Meeting 1:00 P.M.

February 9, 1991

Americal Museum Ft. Devens, MA
 Executive Council 12:30 P.M.
 General Meeting 1:00 P.M.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Sidney Borgla
 39th M.P.'S.
 New Rochelle, NY

Gregory D. Forletta
 Co. D 4/3 Inf.
 Belleville, MI

Elmer E. Matola
 121st Medical
 Hernando, FL

Arnold Meltzer
 Co. G 182nd Inf.
 Newton Centre, MA

John Duff
 Hq. Co. 3 Bn. 101st Med.
 Lady Lake, FL

Paul F. Hill
 Co. H 101st Medical.
 Cambridge, MA

Finnis D. McGleery
 Co. D 1/6 Inf. 198 Bde.
 San Angelo, TX

James C. Trepoy
 Hq. Co. 3/21 Inf. 196 Bde.
 Salina, KS

Daniel Wardien
 Co. A 57th Engr.
 Ventura, CA

NEW MEMBERS

Bruce Stacy Andrews
 Co. D 1/52 Inf. 198 Bde.
 Corpus Christi, TX
 #William K. Maddox

Allen B. Corneliusen
 Co. C-D 1/20 Inf. 11 Bde
 Ronan, MT
 #Bernie Chase

Joseph W. DiLeonardo
 635 M.I.D.
 Sebastopol, CA
 #Bernie Carroll

Robert Franzem
 523rd Signal Bn.
 Richmond Hill, NY
 #Everett Williams Jr.

Ronald Klonicke
 Co. D 4/31 Inf. 196 Bde.
 Chicago, IL
 #Roland Castronova

Sam J. Maggio
 Co. C-D 1/6 Inf 198 Bde.
 Wheaton, IL
 #Bill Lobeck

Arnold Meltzer
 Co. G 182nd Infantry
 Newton, MA
 #Bernie Chase

Joseph A. O'Shea
 23rd Admins.
 Springfield, MA
 #Robert Thornton

David L. Smith
 178th As. H.C.
 Goodland, IN
 #Ron Davis

Michael J. Thyne
 H Troop 17 Cav. 198 Bde.
 Pontiac, IL
 #Ron Ward-Jim Buckle

H. Edward Close
 Co. C 2/1 Inf. 196 Bde.
 Chattanooga, TN
 #Bernie Carroll

Alva D. Cox
 Co. C 26th Engrs.
 Hampton, VA
 #M/S Warren G.H. Reed Ret.

Gregory D. Forletta
 Co. D 4/3 Inf.
 Belleville, MI
 #R. Davis

Howard T. Frost
 23rd M.P.'S.
 Athens, OH
 #Gregory M. Linscott

Michael Lombardo
 Co. H 182nd Infantry
 Waltham, MA
 #Alfred D. Zaino

Finnis D. McGleery
 Co. D 1/6 Inf. 198 Bde.
 San Angelo, TX
 #Ted Bloc-Bill Maddox
 MEDAL OF HONOR WINNER

William Murphy
 Co. H 182nd Infantry
 Concord, MA
 #Alfred D. Zaino

David J. Patenaude
 Co. C 1/46 Inf. 198 Bde.
 Pomfret, CT
 #Roland Castronova

LeRoy Tecube
 Co. B 4/3 Inf. 11 Bde.
 Dulce, NM
 #Robert Thornton

James C. Trepoy
 Hq. Co. 3/21 Inf. 196 Bde.
 Salina, KS
 #Pat Farino

R. Gordon Williams

Sponsor

Paducah, KY
 #Robert Thornton

TAPS

Edward M. Corbett
 H Co. 182 Inf
 Everett, MA
 January 9, 1990

Woodrow R. Icard
 Btry C 221 F.A. Bn.
 Hickory NC
 October 27, 1990

Harold Muse
 Co. M 182 Inf
 Wakefield, MA
 September 16, 1990

B.G. Howard V. Elliott
 57 Engr. Bn.
 Danvers, MA
 October 2, 1990

Frank Massimiano
 221 F.A. Bn.
 Queens, NY
 August 23, 1990

George J. Reed
 Co B. 57 Engr. Bn
 Niagara Falls, NY
 August 1990

Note: General Elliott was also a Past Nat-
 Commander of the A.D.V.A.

Americal Division Veterans Association:

Dear Sir:

This brief note is to advise you of my fathers death in August of this year. George J. Reed was listed in your September/October Newsletter - New Member. For the short time he was a member, your Newsletter was of great interest to him and I deeply appreciate that.

Sincerely,
 Mark D. Reed

WOODROW ROBERT ICARD

Woodrow Robert 'Bob' Icard, 74, died October 27, 1990 at the Brian Center East following a period of declining health.

Born January 17, 1916, in Caldwell County, he was the son of the late William Robert and Minnie Bass Icard.

He was employed as a salesman by Paramount Motors and was former part owner of Icard-Johnson Texaco Station for over 30 years. He was a Mason and a World War II veteran serving with the Americal Division in the Pacific.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Hope White Icard.

Funeral services were held at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, where he was a member and served on the church council. Burial was in the Oakwood Cemetery.

Survivors include two daughters, Patti Simmons and Peggi Parlier, a son Ben W. Icard, a sister Majorie Clayton, seven grandchildren, two stepgrandchildren, and a great grandchild.

Memorials may be made to the Shriner's Crippled Children's Hospital.

Ed Note: Bob was a Life Member of the ADVA and was a 'regular' at the National Conventions.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

CHAPTER NEWS

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CHAPTER

AL, FL, GA, NC, SC, TN

Regional Commander
Edwin A. HeartaquistTarpon Springs, FL 33589
Telephone [REDACTED]

SOUTH MID WEST REGIONAL CHAPTER CHAPTER

AK, LA, MS, OK, TX

Regional Commander
William K. Maddox

Portland, TX 78374

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CHAPTER

IL, IN, MI, MN, WI

Regional Commander
Rush G. Propper

Swartz Creek, MI 48473

FAR WEST REGIONAL CHAPTERAK, AZ, N CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, OR,
ND, SD, UT, ID, WA, WYRegional Commander
Lloyd J. MorrellPleasant Hills, CA 94523
Telephone [REDACTED]

WILLIAM F. McGOLDRICK-CAPE COD CHAPTER
Plymouth & Wareham & South of the CanalCape Cod Chapter Commander
Allen D. Cappella

Plymouth, MA 02360

EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER

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

Eastern Regional Commander
Stephen N. DennisonPittsburgh, PA 15227
Telephone [REDACTED]

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT JOINING A CHAPTER?
THE CHAPTERS HOLD MANY INTERESTING MEETINGS!

CALL YOU CHAPTER COMMANDER TODAY

RECRUIT !

EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER

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

Our Chapter Reunion was held on September 20-22, at Fort Monroe, Virginia. The officers were elected for 1991 are as follows:

Steve Dennison - Chapter Commander
Pete Messina - Secretary/Treasurer
George Yates - Sergeant-at-Arms

The Chapter Reunion was a huge success. Fort Monroe itself is a fine historical place to visit. The Chamberlain Hotel was once a grand hotel where people like the Rockefellers would vacation around the turn of the century. One good feature of staying there was tea time between 2 and 5 p.m. The hotel provided free coffee, tea and a table of scrumptious desserts. The Chamberlain also had an immense heated indoor pool. The Casemate Museum at Fort Monroe was also very interesting and unique. It is the place where Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, was held prisoner. I was the only fort built in the U.S. to have a moat around it.

Various tours were offered to those attending the reunion. There was a tour of Norfolk with a stop at the MacArthur Memorial. There one could see a movie on the general and view his medals and other memorabilia. One of the most interesting and impressive tours was the Norfolk Naval Base. We were fortunate to see 4 aircraft carriers which were docked there plus the battleship Iowa. After the tour we had dinner at the Navy Galley (the mess hall). I can say that in the 20 years that I have been out of the service, the food has not changed a bit. Now that the wives got a chance to sample the food, they said they would have preferred a pizza for dinner instead. It was quite an experience for them.



STEVE DENNISON PETE MESSINA

The next day included a guided walking tour through colonial Williamsburg which the history buffs in the group enjoyed thoroughly. The next stop was at Yorktown where everyone viewed a movie about the battle of Yorktown and a short walk through the battlefields.

CHAPTER NEWS CON'T NEXT PAGE

CHAPTER NEWS

The reunion dinner was held on Saturday and was attended by 45 members. The speaker was Col. Anthony Caggiano who gave his views on the Persian Gulf crisis which was very informative and stimulating. This reunion was a tremendous success. If you did not attend you really did miss out on a great time. Come and join us for the next reunion.

I was designated to look at the facilities at Valley Forge, PA as a first choice and Pittsburgh, PA as a second choice for next years reunion. More on this will follow in future correspondence.

Please keep in mind that a successful reunion is one that has a large attendance. Let's work on that for next year. We hope to have an even bigger and better reunion in 1991.

Steve Dennison
Chapter Commander

WILLIAM F. McGOLDRICK-CAPE COD CHAPTER

The Chapter held a luncheon meeting on Monday November 5, 1990, at Oliver's Restaurant in Yarmouth, MA. The wives of all members, past and present, were invited to attend.

Our Commander Edwin Kuja passed away very suddenly on September 6, and Allen D. Cappella was elected our new Commander at this meeting.

CENTRAL MID WEST CHAPTER

IOWA KANSAS MISSOURI NEBRASKA

If you are interested in helping with this Chapter please contact Ron Ward.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP A NEW MEMBER?

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

The AMERICAL MUSEUM at Fort Devens, MA will be closed from November 1, 1990 until April 15, 1991.

An Army decision has been made to charge all non-service organizations, using a government building, for operation costs. This charge will be made for items such as heat and electricity. Because of the high cost of heating the Museum a decision was made at the October meeting to close during the cold months.

Our meetings will still be held at Fort Devens. We will meet in the Provost Marshall's building until the May meeting.

A notice will be posted on the Museum door giving direction to the meeting place.

COVER STORY

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

PLATOON SERGEANT FINNIS D. MCCLEERY
UNITED STATES ARMY

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Platoon Sergeant Finnis D. McCleery, United States Army, distinguished himself on 14 May 1968, while serving as Platoon Leader of the First Platoon of Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th United States Infantry. On that date a combined force was assigned the mission of assaulting a reinforced company of North Vietnamese Army regulars, well-entrenched on Hill 352 17 miles west of Tam Ky, Quang Tin Province. As Sergeant McCleery led his men up the hill and across an open area to close with the enemy, his platoon and other friendly elements were pinned down by tremendously heavy fire coming from the fortified enemy positions. Realizing the severe damage that the enemy could inflict on the combined force in the event that their attack was completely halted, Sergeant McCleery rose from his sheltered position and began a one-man assault on the bunker complex. With extraordinary courage he moved across 60 meters of open ground as bullets struck all around him and rockets and grenades literally exploded at his feet. As he came within 30 meters of the key enemy bunker, Sergeant McCleery began firing furiously from the hip and throwing grenades. At this point in his assault, he was painfully wounded by shrapnel, but, with complete disregard for his wound, he continued his advance on the key bunker and killed all of the occupants. Having successfully and single-handedly breached the enemy perimeter, he climbed to the top of the bunker he had just captured and, in full view of the enemy, shouted encouragement to his men to follow his assault. As the friendly forces moved forward, Sergeant McCleery began a lateral assault on the enemy bunker line. He continued to expose himself to the intense fire as he moved from bunker to bunker, destroying each in turn. He was wounded for the second time by shrapnel as he destroyed a bunker from which two enemy soldiers were firing rockets and hurling grenades, but Sergeant McCleery valiantly continued his attack until the friendly forces had successfully destroyed and routed the enemy from the hill. Sergeant McCleery is personally credited with eliminating several key enemy positions and inspiring the assault that resulted in gaining control of Hill 352. His extraordinary heroism at the risk of his own life, above and beyond the call of duty, was in keeping with the highest standards of the military service, and reflects great credit on him, the Americal Division, and the United States Army.

Ed Note: Finnis McCleery recently signed up as a member of the Americal Division Veterans Association, thanks to Bill Maddox and Ted Bloc

MUSEUM RESALE ITEMS

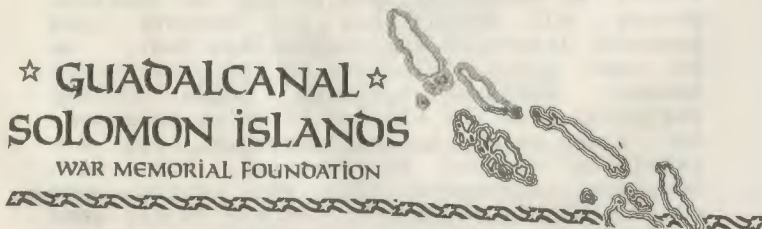
ASSOCIATION PATCH (small)	\$1.00
ASSOCIATION PATCH (large)	3.00
AMERICAL PATCH (dress blue)	1.00
AMERICAL PATCH (field uniform)	1.00
AMERICAN FLAG PATCH	1.00
AMERICAL CAR PLATE	4.00
AMERICAL PIN SHIELD (large)	3.50
AMERICAL PIN SHIELD (small)	1.50
AMERICAL DIVISION CREST	3.00
AMERICAL PATCH DECAL	1.50
DECAL CAR WINDOW	.50
LAPEL PIN (ASSOCIATION)	2.50
TIE BAR W/SHIELD	5.00
HOT PLATE TILE W/DECAL	2.50
MINATURE COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE (lapel)	2.50
MINATURE COMBAT MEDIC BADGE (lapel)	2.50
182 INFANTRY LAPEL PIN (MINATURE)	2.50
UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS (soft cover)	?
(Americal History)	
HAT, OVERSEAS W/PLASTIC COVER	22.50
CAP, BASEBALL TYPE W/PATCH	5.00

? Price will be about \$10.00 - Book now being printed.

Send order to: Kenneth Turner
Wakefield, MA 01880
Or call [REDACTED]

NOTE: Mailing charge will be added to above prices.

☆ GUADALCANAL ☆ SOLOMON ISLANDS WAR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION



The following members have sent in contributions to the Guadalcanal Memorial Foundation:

W. Mark Durley
Wilbur Henley
Harry J. Zierles
William McCormick
Gladys A. Hayes
Charles A. Kallio
James E. McCollom
Wanda W. Engel
Alfred Piscitello
Chester C. Holloway
James C. Trepoy
John T. Woodworth
Albert C. Thomas
Michael J. Florio
Robert C. Rondeau
Jerome S. Altieri
Robert E. Doucette

Contributions are still being accepted.
Please send to: Robert Thornton
Melrose, MA 02176

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?
DO IT NOW!

SICK CALL SICK CALL

Francis P. Noury [REDACTED]
Newburyport, MA 01950

Ernest H. Noury [REDACTED]
Kenosh-Hillcrest
Haverhill, MA 01830

ANTI-TANK 182 INFANTRY

I am recovering from surgery that took care of some unwanted gall stones and stomach cancer. All removed and no radiation on kemo needed.

My brother, Ernest H. Noury has been in a Nursing Home for several months.

My brother and I served with Anti-Tank, 182 Infantry, from Camp Edwards through Guadalcanal and during our stay on Fiji Ernest was sent home. I went home on rotation from Cebu, after the Philippines were secure.

After all these years I am finally sending a Jap sword and rifle that me and my friend John Wenz, from Cleveland, Ohio, got on Bougainville. They will be sent to the Americal Museum at Fort Devens by November 1, 1990.

My brother and I would like to hear from any of our old comrades.

Francis P. Noury

182 INFANTRY

Thank you for the many cards and calls that I have received during my illness. It certainly was good to hear from my old buddies.

Sam DeMarco

NATIONAL CEMETERY - BOURNE, MASSACHUSETTS

The Veterans Day service was held at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Camp Edwards, Bourne, Massachusetts on November 4, 1990.

This ceremony has grown over the years and Richard Gallant, an ADVA member, deserves a great deal of credit for it's success along with the American Legion Post of Sandwich, MA.

Seven members of the ADVA were present for the ceremony.

This year marked the 10th Anniversary of the founding of this Cemetery. It is a well planned and well maintained cemetery. However, they are in need of their own P.A. system and a Medallion is being offered for sale to raise funds for the P.A. system. It is an attractive bronze medallion slightly larger than a silver dollar and it commemorates the 10th Anniversary.

If you would like to purchase one please send \$7.50 to: Bernie Chase

So. Yarmouth, MA 02664

The Medallion is \$7.00 plus \$.50 Postage.

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

Members;

In a previous newsletter we the film "Casualties of War" in which the Americal shoulder patch was plainly visible on soldiers raping and killing a Vietnamese civilian. One of our members, "Duster" Heath pointed out that this incident took place before the Americal ever arrived in-country. In fact it was the work of the 1st Cavalry Division. The film maker apparently wanted to run us through the mud My Lai style. Below we have some comments from "Duster" on why he believes such things happened.

Extenuating circumstances often resulted in moral decisions not acceptable to armchair commanders who made their decisions from administrative echelons where theory and rhetoric reigned supreme. In reality, ethics were often defined by the combat soldiers doing the dirty work. Example, the 1968 "Valley of the Shadow" incident:

There was a common opinion among many U.S. troops that ROK (Republic of Korea) soldiers suffered fewer casualties because they were the meanest, most ruthless mutheres in the valley. Coupled with this attitude was the average American commander's penchant for competitively large body counts, which seemed to mant troops a mandate to improve casualty ratios, a "license to kill". The "Valley" unit took heavy casualties from mines, booby-traps, ambushes. Women and older children helped the enemy rig traps, bury mines. American combat soldiers generally believed that most villagers knew the locations of these devices. Villagers these Americans tried to protect, stood by silently as Americans were killed and maimed. Emotional pressure to take severe retribution against villagers where Americans had taken casualties was intense. Moral decisions made under the life and death stress of combat are extremely biased by emotion and should be acknowledged as such under review.

One combat soldier in the unit refused a direct order, under subsequent threat of courtmartial, to take severe retribution against a particular village where his unit had just taken casualties, the result of an ambush. He felt his refusal to participate "bought him the right" to blow the whistle on the troops involved, yet he refused to submit the men in the unit to the hypocrisy of a military tribunal. He felt the greatest responsibility rested elsewhere.

Important decisions outside combat are weighed and re-evaluated over time in order to minimize emotion, maximize information and weigh consequences. There was never time to calmly weigh possible outcomes.

Though other men probably would have taken a harder stance with the perpetrators, I must respect Mr. Storeby's position. (Storeby is the GI in the film who reported the rape/murder) since he had the fortitude to refuse to participate and to turn them in. In war, complex morale decisions must be made on the spot, under severe emotional stress, mostly by teenagers. The nature of war and combat should have dictated that combatants be granted the benefit of any doubts.

J.A. "Duster" Heath
198th LIB 67-68'

HAVE YOU CALLED THAT BUDDY YET?
DO IT NOW!

Members;

I should note immediately that I never served in Vietnam, but I do have a deep interest in the Americal Division because I wrote a book, DEATH Valley (Presidio Press, 1987), which covered the activities of the 3/21 and 4/31 Infantry, 196th LIB in the Hiep Duc Valley campaign of August, 1969. I got to know a lot of Americal vets at that time.

That was my third book on the Vietnam War. Since then, I have written two more (all were published in hardback by Presidio Press and in paperback by Dell); I am currently starting a sixth proposed book on the Vietnam War and, once again, the subject is the Americal Division. Specifically, I am re-searching the Battle of Nhi Ha (1-16 May 1968) which was a part of Operation Napoleon/Saline in the Cua Viet River area north of Dong Ha (this was in the AO of the 3rd Marine Division); the 3/21 Infantry of the 196th LIB was placed under the operational control of the 3rd Marine regiment, 3rd Marine Division, and saw heavy combat in Nhi Ha and the surrounding areas in the shadow of the DMZ.

By chance, do you know of any 3/21 vets of Nhi Ha, or do you have any suggestions on how I could find these guys?

Keith W. Nolan
[REDACTED]

Editors note: Our by-laws prohibit us from giving Nolan the names/addresses of our members so it's up to you to contact him. I've read all of Nolan's books and found them to be extremely factual and well written. He relies heavily on interviews of the battle participants so I encourage you to help him out. He's doing a great service to our Division by telling our story as it happened in Vietnam. If you want to reach him by mail its:

Webster Groves, Mo. 63119

Members;

As a former member of D Co 5/46th 198th LIB 68-69', I resent seeing my combat patch being displayed on national TV on the shoulder of some ass making big bucks while seen raping another ass**** supposedly taking place in Vietnam. I'm a two war, Korea 52' Nam 68', twenty year vet, and can't believe some of the crap movie makers are allowed to put on film. I wonder how much they donate to our VA Hospitals to assist the guys that really need help. How much do they donate to the forgotten POW-MIA's that no one cares about. What is a name, write the poor guy off, but make sure we get our civilian hostages out of the Middle East. Are you kidding me. The sentiments of a fading fool.

Roland Whitney E-7 ret.

Westwego, LA 70094

Members;

Does anyone have or know where a man can get a metal crest for the 16th Aviation Group? Contact the man listed below:

Art Holliday Sgt Major USA ret

Hephzibah, GA 30815

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

Dear Ron;

The Americal Newsletter July/Aug 1990 listed my unit incorrectly as HHC 30 Inf 11 Bde 4 Bn. The correct listing of my unit should be HHC 4/3 Inf. 11th LIB. I was very proud to serve with the "Old Guard" from June 1966 (Schoefield Barracks) deploying to Vietnam Dec 1967, and was medevaced Oct 68' from Vietnam leaving the "Old Guard". Since I was assigned to the 4/3 for approximately 28 months, I have a special feeling in my heart for the "Old Guard" Battalion.

Additionally, under the THANKS column on page 8 of the Sept/Oct Newsletter, a thanks was extended to Al "Fast Freddy" Salazar for sending a copy of a newsletter put out by the 4/3. Needless to say, I would like to have a copy of the newsletter, but I do not have Salazar's address.

Lastly, there is a buddy of mine who I'm trying to locate. He graduated from OCS in 65' with me and served in the "Old Guard" during the same time frame, June 66' to Oct 68". Anyone knowing Captain Grady Middleton from Georgia and where he can be located today, please contact me. It's been 22 years since I last saw him on the "battlefield". Also, since I never had the luck to come in contact with anyone who served with me in the 4/3, now after 22 years I want to formulate plans for a reunion with all officers and EM who were with the 4/3 before deployment and after deployment to Vietnam; era 1967 through 1971 inclusively. If anyone is interested, drop me a line.

Best Regards,

George Bryant III Major ret
Hampton, VA 23664

Dear Ron;

Congratulations commander! You've worked hard for the ADVA and I appreciate it very much.

I would enjoy hearing from anyone that remembers me. My nickname was Hopy. We worked out of LZ Doty.

I hope you don't think we're crazy, but a buddy of mine and I traveled to Thailand last year to relive our R&R's. It was a great time! We not only observed (I'm married) Bangkok night life, we also explored the jungles of northern Thailand. We stayed in Hilltribe villages, rafted rivers, traveled by elephant, and navigated the Maekhong. It was such a great time that we were planning a return trip. If any of the guys are interested in joining a small group Thailand adventure, they can contact me for more information.

Mark Hoplin 1/6th 198th 70-71
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

Members;

Any veteran who served in the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, Americal Division in any troop in Vietnam. I would like to hear from you. I'm starting a roster for a possible reunion. I've located 50 men so far. Send info to:

Terry Babler C/O 1/1 Cav
New Glarus, WI 53574

Dear Ron;

Here's lyrics to a song that has a theme on the war. It was recorded by Gary Puckett and the Union Gap (remember Lady Willpower and Over You, etc.) around 1969, and was stuck in the middle of one of the albums containing their better known hits of that time. It was a pretty emotional song for that period and one of the very few that dealt with and was expressly written for the Vietnam war. Many think that "Galveston" by Glen Campbell was about a guy leaving his girl and going to Vietnam. In fact that was played a lot on television. There was Glen with his long hair wearing a fatigue jacket singing "Galveston". When I saw it I was recovering from wounds at the 6th Convelescent Center at Cam Rahn Bay. We'd get all choked up and would picture ourselves and our girlfriends running on the beach like in Galveston. It wasn't until several years later that I learned "Galveston" was written about a guy leaving for the Civil War, not Vietnam. Hopefully the song won't be re-released showing Glen Campbell astride a camel in Saudi Arabia. Oh well, just a bit of trivia for you.

Before I sign off...do you know why Iraq doesn't teach sex education and drivers training at the same time? The camels won't stand for it!

Linn Hoopes

HOME

And every night they lie awake
And dream of Momma's chocolate cake
And wonder if there will be a tomorrow
And will they ever see their home, their family
Or will they ever be back home
And eyes who have never learned to pray
Look to the heavens every day
And stumble through a simple little prayer
And ask the Lord above
To send them home to the ones they love
Oh God I hope they make it home
And everyday some young man dies
And in the night some young girl cries
He'll never hear his baby's laughter
He'll never see his home and his family
Oh what he's done for me and you
But I guess he's on his way back home

4/3 Inf. - 11 Bde.

Dear Sir:

I was with the 4/3, 11LIB, from May 69 to April 70. I was lucky enough to obtain a map of our operating area around Duc Pho. What I would like to know is the grid coordinates for LZ San Juan Hill. If any body can send me that information I would appreciate it.

Also, has anyone who subscribes to the newsletter gone back to Vietnam. If so how did you do it, where did you go, and what was it like. I would like to know. Especially the area around Duc Pho and San Juan Hill.

Sincerely,

Jack Kanady
61 Meadowlark
Spfld., IL 62702

If any member can help Jack, please drop him a line.

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

Dear Ron;

I recently became a member and I'm rearing to go! I want to become active in the central mid-west region. If you have a spot or job for me to do, I'll gladly take it on. I'm retired, and have plenty of time on my hands. You can thank Brian Mulcrone and Dutch DeGroot for my membership. They've been working on me for years.

While with the 23rd MP Company from Dec 1970 to Nov 1971 I was the Company Operations NCO, the First Sergeant, and in the end, Provost Marshal Operations NCO when the Division entered stand-down status and commenced deactivation in Oct-Nov 1971. When I returned to the States in Dec 1971, I retired the following January 1972 at Fort Riley, my old unit in the 508th MP Battalion.

While in the Army from 1945 through 1972, I was a veteran of the tail-end of WW2, Korea [twice] and Vietnam. I was part of the occupation Army in Japan from December 1945 until June 1948 with the 1st Cavalry Division's 5th Regiment [The Black Knights] at Camp McGill, a short distance from huge naval base at Yokosuka. I was an MP then with the 1st Brigade of the 5th Regiment, 1st Cavalry.

When I arrived in Vietnam in 1970, my complete military records were lost in my baggage by the Air Force from Cam Rahn Bay to Chu Lai. When I arrived, all I owned was what I had on my back and in my pockets. I was lucky though, for the finance clerk who processed me in took real good care of me. I was able to secure a set of orders from Cam Rahn personnel center to prove I was me. The Americal personnel center went all out to help me settle in, and made new records for me. I had no trouble knowing who I served with. The MP's are a small corps. I was immediately met and vouched for by other officers and senior NCO's who served with me in previous assignments. LTC Nick Pugliese was the Provost Marshal, Major David Pointer was the Deputy, and Capt Brad Dickerson was MP Operations Officer. Capt Wayne Timmerlake was Co, 23rd MP Co, 1st Sgt Folmar was top sgt, SP/4 Jim Wahl was Company clerk and SP/4 Jim O'Brien was his assistant. I was made the Company Operations NCO and assigned MP shifts to meet commitments from PMO. Our mission was to provide base MP patrol duty, and to escort supply convoys within the division area to resupply our troops. We had some real swell kids in the 23rd MP Company, and they worked their tails off. They appreciated NCO's who shared hardships with them.

In early March 1971, 1SG Folmar rotated back to the States and I was appointed his replacement. When I took over the unit, all the main NCO's rotated with Folmar. New platoon NCO's were SFC Gene Cogar, Bailey Phelps, Art Diocson, and an SFC Hanson. PMO used SFC Dominco Blanco in movement control. While I was first sergeant, Typhoon Hyster struck Chu Lai base in late September 1971 thereabouts, and laid the base to waste. It ripped the camp from end to end. We lost a major part of headquarters, the tactical operations center, and major troop billets on the main base, as well as sub-camps built around the main base. We saw buildings ripped apart like match boxes. What the Viet Cong tried to do in sapper attacks, that typhoon achieved in less than one hour.

When the PMO Sgt Major rotated to the states in September 1970, LTC Pugliese pulled me up to PMO and made me his top NCO.

We were right in the middle of stand-down and deactivation, and we had to continue our mission. At PMO to help me keep the peace was some of the best NCO's and EM any supervisor would be proud to have on board. Our Desk Sgt's were Pete Massey, Luther Dawson, and Roland Carneal. The PMO clerks were Sgt Duane Krohn, and SP/4's Eddy and Adams, assisted by SP/4 Rich Snyder who was also a chemist

for drugs and compounds seized in raids.

I wish I could name every MP that served with me, but it would be hard to recall. I know a lot of last names, but have lost track of them over the years. In the last days, we had had several infantrymen assigned to replace rotated or wounded MP's who were reassigned stateside. The grunts did yeoman jobs. They took to their duties fast. They escorted ammunition convoys all up and down the MSL's and took casualties like the infantry. We handed out a lot of Purple Hearts in a 90 day period around Sept through Nov, 1971.

It doesn't matter if the Americal vets were in WW2 or Vietnam. Those kids, despite being part of the "hippy pot head" years were full of courage and did their jobs in the best traditions possible, under the miserable conditions we survived in. Our boys rescued many a stranded grunt at some isolated LZ in the divisional area when they arrived leading a relief convoy of V-100's with gattling guns blazing as they busted through those VC road blocks.

It doesn't bother me to say that brave young American men, naked to the waist, clothing smeared with mud, sweat, blood, and feces, and tussled up long hair, tied by a sweat band, were all heroes of one kind or other, and that without them, the Americal Div would never have achieved the combat record that it did, despite the tragedy of My Lai by misled 11th LIB troops. Their mistake was not challenging illegal orders. I read the full report of that tragedy, while with the 23rd MP's. Under the battle conditions in effect, they were justified in what they did. It is a chapter the Americal can survive from. Heroes all, the Americal did a fine job in the closing days of the war. On Nov 10, 1971 LTC Pugliese gave me a direct order to get on a chopper and head to Danang for rotation. It was an order I'd gladly have disobeyed if given a chance. I'm proud to be a member of the ADVA.

David L. Recob
23rd MP Co

Co's. H.H.C - D 6th Infantry

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed please find the following: Application for Membership; Copy of DD 214; Initial Dues (\$16.00)

I am very pleased to join the Association, having served with so many fine men in the Americal in Vietnam. I feel it even more important for us Vietnam Vets, to join the Association as we may rightly feel pride for what we did there, in spite of the negative coverage the Division has consistently received from the press (most of whom probably weren't there, anyway). In short, I am very pleased that the Association exist, and I am proud to join up.

I look forward to receiving your newsletters and other information. Keep up the good work!

Yours sincerely,

Ken McNab

Members;

1/46th Infantry is finalizing plans for a reunion June 21-23, 1991 in Marthasville, Mo. Contact person is Al Wilson, RR 3, Box 250A, Manchester, IA 52057.

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

WISCONSIN NAM VETS 5TH ANNUAL REUNION
SCEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY NIGHT JAN 18, 1991

6-9 PM Meet at Chapter 3 Clubhouse, 316 Choates Ave in Monticello, WI (just 5 minutes from New Glarus) for food donated by two organizations. There will be a cash bar for beverages. Also many gifts ideas to remember your weekend will be available. This is a good time to socialize. Bring the family.

9:30 PM Meet at Swiss Lanes in New Glarus in back parking lot for parade line-up. We will put everyone in platoons. Colors all together in front. We have plenty of drill sgt's to keep you going.

10:00 PM Yes, the parade is 10:00 PM. We'll be escorted to the parade starting point and be the lead element. Dress for the weather.

10:15 PM Or when we're done with the parade. It ends at Flannery's Night Club in back town of New Glarus, where we will again provide hospitality. Live Music, free admission. First keg of beer on Wisconsin Vietnam Vets Chapter 3 and VFW Post 10549 of New Glarus.

SATURDAY JANUARY 19, 1991

3:30PM The annual New Glarus Poker Run will take place for us at Swiss Lanes. Prizes will be given out for the best poker hands.

9PM -1AM Hospitality with music at Chapter 3 Club House. Poker and music.

There are other events planned by the veterans plus the village of New Glarus has plenty of events all weekend. Motel rooms are around \$25 to \$35 a night. For more info call Terry Babler at [REDACTED] after 4PM CST or write: Wisconsin Vietnam Vets C/O Winterfest Rally, [REDACTED] New Glarus, WI 53574.



Dear Jim:

Just to keep your records straight, I am one more 3-War veteran the ADVA, and one of about only 250 who earned the Combat Infantry Badge 3 times. Sometimes I think I should claim 4 wars since I served two tours with the Americal in Vietnam.

You've done a great job with the Newsletter-- it has become much more interesting and readable and I'm sure I'm not the only reader who appreciate it.

I know that I am a Life Member, but put this small check in the Treasury anyway, and keep up the good work.

Hq 196 '68-69
Hq Americal Div '71

Sincerely,
F.J. Kroesen
Gen USA-Ret.

Ed Note: Thank you very much for your contribution and your kind words. I have a great staff to work with and a great bunch of guys that forward us information.

I will add your name to our list of 3 war veterans. I certainly put my foot in it when I neglected to do my homework.

Hello Ron;

I thought I'd write and mention a few things I saw on TV not long ago, and as a Vietnam vet, I got more than a little angry.

The first show I saw was on a PBS station Aug 27 1990 called Great Journeys and photographer Phillip J Griffiths explored the Ho Chi Mihn Trail. They should have called the show "Kick America in the Teeth". The photographer couldn't seem to say enough nice things about the enemy and then tell about mistakes we made in Vietnam. The biggest mistake was the photographer was allowed to air the show on a public broadcasting station. Mr and Mrs war protester and yuppie America got to see the enemy version of the Vietnam war. The photographer did interview war veterans all right, NVA and Viet Cong. Not one American vet was interviewed. It's with regards to programs like this that history books only give the date when American forces withdrew from Vietnam. I think this is a good example of how we are still forgotten today.

Then too! In a switch one Vietnam vet all of America seems to know is Mr "Born on the 4th of July" himself, Ron Kovic. He was on ABC's Nightline Oct 19th, and he was telling how we should pull out of the Middle East and kept repeating about not wanting to see more young Americans having to live the rest of their lives in wheelchairs and was telling of planned demonstrations against U.S. involvement in the Middle East. Well I hate to see anybody spend the rest of their life in a wheelchair too! Be it by war, or accident, or birth defect. The way I took Ron "Hollywood Glitz" Kovic's speech it seemed to me that he thinks he's the only disabled vet in this country. Whatever he has to do to keep his name in the spotlight, he'll do. I think about how much the country is behind the soldiers in the Middle East and I'm glad. But someone like Kovic is trying hard to turn the American peoples' opinion against these troops. He should think about all the homeless vets and those in prison, and consider himself lucky.

We can elect him to the Hanoi Jane Hall of Fame for Protesters. Then he might shut up!

Maurice Henson
A Co 26th Engr Bn 196th LIB
Vietnam 68-69'

Members;

Anyone who served with Sgt George Cox, C Co 1/20 11th LIB, who was killed on March 14, 1968 while searching an enemy ammunition cache, need to contact the below member who has been in contact with Sgt Cox's son. The son wants to talk to some of his father's comrades.

Joe "Doc" Kralich 4/31 196th
[REDACTED]
Ranchos, NM 87557
[REDACTED]

Members;

Steve Leinfus 4/21st 11th LIB 68-69' needs to locate field medic, Dr. Carbone, who treated him for shrapnel wounds. Steve needs this testimony to get the Purple Heart that he's due. Contact:

Steve Leinfus
[REDACTED]
Rancho Cordova, CA 95607

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

3/21 Inf. 196 Bde.

Dear Fellow Veterans:

I just received an Americal Newsletter and I don't know if it was mailed by Pat Farino or the Association.

I was attending the National Convention of the Retired Enlisted Association in San Antonio, Texas, this past July 1990, when Pat Farino approached me. I was wearing an Americal pin and 196th Inf. Bde. pin on my hat, and we started comparing experiences in service with the Americal. When asked if I was a member of the Americal Association, and giving him a negative answer, Pat said he would send me a letter with an application.

Being assigned to the Americal in Vietnam was not my first exposure to the Americal, as I served in the Islands in WW 11. After landing in Townsville, in Australia in early 1943, my unit the 217th QMSR, then served in New Guinea, Hollandia, Dutch East Indies (Biak), Philippines, and finally Japan in August 1945. I was aware of the Americal and how the division was formed.

Leaving Japan in 1946 and receiving my discharge, returned home to Ohio and married the girl I had left behind. I volunteered to return to active duty just prior to the Korean conflict, and served in the Korean Military Advisory Group (KMA) in Korea. After several stateside assignments, including the 3rd Infantry (The Old Guard) the Presidential Honor Guard in Washington D.C., received orders for Vietnam. Orders specified attending the Vietnamese language school at Fort Bliss, Texas, with an assignment to the 3rd Bn. 21st Inf., 196th Inf. Bde., Americal Division. The Command Sergeant Major of the 3/21st Inf. had already rotated so when I reported in to the Americal at Chu Lai, I was on the next helicopter to LZ Center where the Gimlet CP was located. We also occupied LZ East and the troops patrolled the lowlands and the mountains. My tour in 'Nam was June '68 to June '69. I am enclosing two pictures taken in Vietnam, one of Ltc. Snyder with our Gimlet sign, and one of me sitting in the entrance to my dug-in bunker.



I retired from the US Army in August 1970, as a Command Sergeant Major after serving 26½ years. I served in the Islands in WW 11, Korea and Vietnam, and am unhappy to say that I never served in Europe. I never fail to stop an individual wearing or displaying the Americal or 196th Bde. patch and relive places and happenings. Due to the Americal not being an active division, we don't see many of these patches. Over 15 years since Vietnam and over 50 years since WW 11.



Enclosed is my check for \$25.00, first installment towards life dues.

Sincerely,

James C. Trepoy
[REDACTED]
Salina, KS 67401
[REDACTED]

23 ADMINISTRATION COMPANY

While looking through the Sep/Oct issue of the Americal Newsletter I think I ran across a name of a Vietnam Vet that I was in country with. If you could help me out and give me his address it would be most appreciated. His name is Dennis G. Regenne, 11 LIB of Bayonne, NJ, recruited by Wayne Yarborough.

I am an active member with the Vietnam Veterans of America Chaptedr 77 and we have a locator page called 'Vietnam'. I have been trying to find anyone from my unit in Vietnam May '70 - April '71.

Yours in comradeship,
Bob Sargis

Ed Note: Bob, I am not allowed to send you that information on a member but I forwarded your letter to him and I do hope he has answered you by now. Jim

26 ENGINEERS COMPANY A '68-69

Dear Sirs:

As a member of the ADVA I really enjoy the AMERICAL NEWSLETTER very much -- and some friends of mine do also. When the May-June issue arrived I found my first story in it and let my friends read it.

Well, many people by now have read the Newsletter and enjoyed all the stories in it as they say, "You can't Beat the Truth", as told by the Young Soldiers.

I was hoping to get another copy of the MAY-JUNE issue as I didn't get the chance to finish reading it myself.

Thank you,
Maurice Henson

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

6 SPT BN 11 LIB

I am a proud member of the Americal Division Association, and I would be even more honored to fly the Americal colors on those special days of the year. Can anyone tell me how, if possible, I can obtain a flag with the Americal colors and a flag, if one exists, showing the colors of the 11 LIB.

I was in Vietnam with the 6 Spt Bn. 11 LIB at L Z Bronco, Duc Pho, from Dec '67 to August '68.

A couple of issues back I had written an article in the Americal Newsletter regarding the transporting of the 11 LIB from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, to Vietnam by way of the USNT General Weigel.

Like many other veterans I have not had any contact with those friends I served with in Vietnam. Seldom does a day pass that I do not think of them.

If anyone knows of a future 11 LIB reunion please write and give the information. In fact I would like to hear from anyone who may have known me during those years of '67-68.

Dan t. Bates

Florissant, MO 63031

(Formally from Brighton, IL)

KOKOMO, INDIANA



Ron Ward - Ron Davis - Bob Kastings



Dan Herald - Ed Marsh - Ron Ward - John Wills - Bob Kastings

SOME VIETNAM POWs MAY STILL BE ALIVE

Washington (UPI)

American prisoners of war were held in Vietnam after the Pentagon said there were none, and some are probably still alive, Senate staff investigators reported.

In an interim report, the Republican staff of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said government's claims that no evidence exists that any Americans are being held against their will in Southeast Asia "cannot be supported."

The staff, which conducted the first independent investigation in 17 years of the method used by the Pentagon to account for POWs and MIAs of the Vietnam War, said, "The information uncovered during the inquiry provides enough corroboration to cast doubt upon the veracity of the U.S. governments' conclusion."

The investigators said "more information remains to be reviewed" and said its report was based on evidence uncovered to date.

The report said, "Living U.S. citizens, military and civilian, were held in southeast Asia against their will after the U.S. government on April 13, 1973, that no prisoners remained alive."

The POW-Mia issue is a point of contention in efforts to renew relations between the United States and Vietnam.

When Nguyen Cao Thae, the Vietnamese foreign minister, talked with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and listed the terms to which he had agreed, "Thae never once mentioned that the issues of living POWs in Vietnam had been addressed."

"Evidence uncovered in several hundred cases reviewed thus far clearly demonstrates that, in a disturbing number of cases, the Department of Defense made significant errors in drawing conclusions about live-sighting reports, the presumed deaths of individuals or about individuals who were unaccounted for at the conclusion of the war," the report said.



"ALL THE VETS"

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

HHC G-2

I REMEMBER GEN. (Then Major) COLIN POWELL

In 1968/69 Major Powell was introduced to us at the TOC as a new member that would be working with G-2/G-3. At first I thought that this guy was going to be a spit and polish kind of guy--and for the most part he was.

But one night a friend of mine, Mike Curtis, from New York, had a birthday and we were going to celebrate. Mike worked in G-3 TOC, and he obtained permission to use a supply hutch of G-3 for the party. We got together with some people and came up with lots of booze. We had a great time celebrating Mike's 21st birthday.

Needless to say, Mike needed some air and I accompanied him outside and some distance from the hutch. We were drinking from C-ration cans and Mike asked me to hold his drink. This I did and Mike promptly threw up and then passed out.

I was sitting beside him holding his drink, and who should walk up--you are right--Major Powell. He asked what we were doing and I told him that we were celebrating Mike's 21st birthday and Mike had passed out. He then told me to get him up out of the dirt but I replied that I was holding Mike's drink and that he would get up in a little while. The Major then called to the men in the hutch to come out and get Mike back into the hutch.

Major Powell then looked at me with a hard stare and said, "With friends like you that boy doesn't need any enemies. Maybe you people should break up the party, seeing that the 'birthday boy' has passed out". He then smiled a little smile and walked away.

After that I had a great deal of respect for the man. He could have gotten us into a pile of trouble but he didn't. He is an OK guy!

That is how I remember General Colin Powell

It would be nice to hear from Mike Curtis, John Turnipseed and anyone else that remembers me.

God Bless all of the brave men; before, then and now.

Take care,
Jimmy Vail

Village Mills, TX 77663

Have you noticed the many pictures of General Powell on TV, newspapers, and magazines? He proudly displays the Americal emblem on his right shoulder.

CHECK TO THE RIGHT OF YOUR NAME
ON THE ADDRESS LABEL
FOR THE MONTH YOUR DUES ARE DUE

PLEASE SEND IN CORRECTION IF YOUR
ADDRESS LABEL IS INCORRECT



Americal Division Crest

The Americal Division crest, or badge, which is worn on the epaulets of a Class A uniform, is symbolic of the division's past service. Approximately one inch in length, the metal crest has a gold background with blue lettering and cross, white stars, and a red arrow and markings.

The saltire or cross of St. Andrew alludes to New Caledonia in the Southwest Pacific where the Division was created and first activated on May 27, 1942. The blue (for infantry) cross and four white stars form a "Southern Cross," referring to the division's shoulder sleeve insignia (approved Dec. 20, 1943) and the area in which the men of the Americal originally served.

The four stars of the constellation also stand for the four campaigns in World War II in which the division participated: Guadalcanal, Northern Solomons, Leyte, and Southern Philippines.

The anchor refers to the Presidential Unit Citation (Navy) awarded the division for Guadalcanal. The red arrowhead and Philippine sun at the top symbolizes the assault landing in the Southern Philippines and the award of the Philippine Unit Citation (Oct. 17, 1944 to July 4, 1945).

The unsheathed sword with point to the top refers to the Americal's service in Vietnam.

Ed Note: Many questions have been asked about the crest since they were passed out at the Convention in Chicago.

Thanks to Ed Marsh, 4/21 Inf 11 LIB, for sending in this article.

You may purchase one of these crest by contacting Ken Turner. See ad on Page 5.

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

101st - 125th QM

On Sunday, September 9, 1990, the Massachusetts National Guard Armory in Framingham, Massachusetts, was dedicated as the Brigadier General Ralph T. Noonan Armory, in a very impressive ceremony.

On hand for this dedication ceremony was Mrs. Ralph Noonan and her family. Among the Veteran's group and other organizations on hand were, Dennis Thomas V.F.W. Post 2578, Hyannis Lodge of Elks 1549, Yankee Division Veteran's Association, members of the Massachusetts National Guard, family friends of General Noonan from Framingham and Hyannis, Mass.

There were more than sixty members of the Americal Division Veterans Association, including a few who served all there time in the Army with General Noonan. Colonel John F. Hill former Commanding Officer 221st Field Artillery Battalion, came up from Baltimore, Maryland, to be the principal speaker for the Americal Division Veteran's Association. We thank Colonel Hill for the fine job he did. Otto Petr Company I, 132 Infantry flew in from Chicago for the day. We hope Otto makes the Reunion in June, so he can spend a few days with us.

After the ceremony the Massachusetts National Guard hosted a collation, a great day was had by all who attended. General Noonan's first love was for his family, but second to that was his love of the Americal and the troops that he served with.

101st Medical

Dear Veterans:

On behalf of my father, Joe J. Aguirre I would like to address the members of the Americal Division Veterans Association. Does your organization offer a publication such as a newsletter or magazine that I might use to place an advertisement to reach veterans of the Americal who served in the South Pacific during World War II?

I am hoping to find information about members of the 101st Medical Regiment who on May 1, 1943, through 'Tables of Organization' were transferred to form a cadre for the 52nd Field Hospital on Guadalcanal. These 125 converted infantrymen of the Americal Division were given Campaign and Battle Credit for: Guadalcanal, Northern Solomons (Battle Empress Augusta Bay) Southern Philippines (participated in combat Davao City-Mindanao) while serving in the 52nd Field Hospital.

Any veteran who can provide any information about this hospital unit, either as a patient, member of unit, or otherwise please reply. Your help is invaluable as records of this unit are few or do not exist. These veterans have played a part in history and deserve to be recorded, this can only be made possible through your efforts.

Thank you,

Raymond G. Aguirre

Lincoln, NE 68502

Any one from the 101st who can help Raymond call or write him.

246th F.A. Bn.

Dear Robert:

Inclosed is a check for \$50.00 for the Guadalcanal Memorial. I made a donation to the Memorial Committee a couple years ago, so it was a disappointment surprise that the fund is still short of its goal.

I think ADVA should organize a tour for the dedication of the Memorial. Although the ranks are thinning I believe enough Americal Vets. could be recruited to obtain special excursion rates.

Meanwhile my thanks for your volunteer effort and best wishes.

Chet Holloway

Chet thank you for your donation. Like you many of our members are doubling there original donation. Mark Durely who sent the Committee \$1,000.00 a few years ago has sent us another \$1,000.00 to add to our total donation which will be made in January 1991. We wish that anyone who is thinking about making a donation, send it in as quick as possible. Remember no donation is to big or to small. Lets support the two members of the Americal, Dr. Robert C. Muehrcke, and Joe Micek both from the 132nd Infantry, who are doing most of the work for this Committee. When the Memorial is dedicated August 7, 1992, we want to be able to say that the Americal did there share.

There will be information on a tour at a later date in the Newsletter.

IF YOUR LETTER IS NOT IN THIS ISSUE PLEASE DO NOT PANIC. THE MAIL WAS VERY HEAVY THIS PAST MONTH AND WE HAVE ONLY SO MUCH SPACE. WE WILL CATCH UP. PLEASE KEEP WRITING. YOUR LETTERS ARE WHAT MAKES A GOOD NEWSLETTER!



LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

164 INFANTRY NEWS

Maj. Gen. Crump Garvin, 92, died of cancer September 5, 1990 in Lenbrook Retirement Center, Atlanta, Georgia. Gen. Garvin is remembered as an outstanding and respected Regimental Commander of the 164 Infantry on Fiji and Bougainville. Special tribute is made to Gen. Garvin's leadership which helped to restore the Regiment to a highly effective unit after the Guadalcanal campaign.

General Garvin was in Harrison, Arkansas. He graduated from West Point in 1920. He served as Chief of Staff of the Americal Division on Guadalcanal and commanded the 164 Infantry Regiment on Fiji and Bougainville. He then became Chief of Staff of the XXIV Corp during the invasion of Leyte and the Philippine campaign. He also served with troops in combat on Okinawa and Korea.

Condolences are extended to Mrs. Garvin, his two sons and his daughter.

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

Americal Division Members:

Around the late 1950's or early 1960's "Saga" magazine printed a brief history of the Americal division in World War II---about 5 or 6 pages with a few photos.

I would:

1. Like to find the year and month of this article.
2. Pay a good price for a copy of the Magazine.
3. Pay for a Xerox copy if some has the Magazine

I have 'Under the Southern Cross'.

I am not a veteran of the Americal but I was in the 8th Army.

Best Regards,

Rob J. Pyne

Redwood City, CA 94061

182 INFANTRY

Enclosed please find check toward the American Guadalcanal Memorial.

Sure enjoyed meeting all the ADVA members and their wives at Oakbrook. Expect to be in New England in '91.

Glad to be able to vote, YES, for this worthy cause at the Convention.

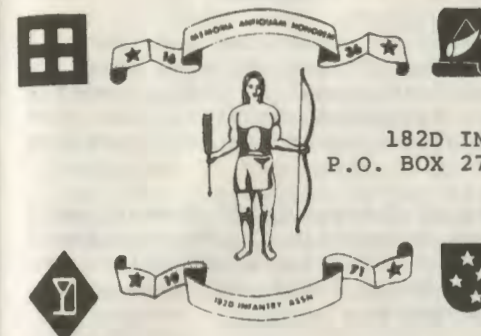
SFC Wm. 'Doc' McCormick (Ret)

CO. D 121 MED. BN.

Here is my check for the Guadalcanal Memorial.

Alfred Piscitello

CHECK THAT DUES CARD NOW!



Greetings from the 182d Infantry Association. We are back with news for our friends in the Americal Division Veterans Association.

The 182d Infantry Association held their annual election of officers at their Malden headquarters on October 18, 1990. The elected officers for our 1990-1991 membership year are as follows; Commander Charles L. Doyle of Revere; Vice Commander James E. Lane of Charlestown; First Vice commander Warren J. Zannino of Malden; Adjutant Robert A. Cox of Arlington; and Finance Officer Donald E. Estabrooks of Peabody. New trustees are John D. Malenchini of Melrose; Donald E. Tibbets of Chelsea; and Davis I. Westerman of Malden. Our Executive Council, all Past Commanders, consists of Herbert E. Watson of Malden; William R. Duke of Melrose; and Douglas F. Tarbox of Everett.

We represent the 182d Infantry Regiment, (presently a Battalion out of Melrose, Malden, Chelsea and Cambridge), one of the four oldest organizations, all from Massachusetts, still active in the United States. It's history dates back to December 13, 1636, with the activation of the old "North Regiment" of Middlesex County. The Regiment holds many honors for service in the 354 years of it's existence, with combat service in nearly all conflicts from 1636 thru World War II.

Are you a former member or present member of the 182d Infantry but not a member of the Association? If so, we invite you to join with your compatriots of the '182d'. Drop us a line or a post card with your name and address to; Commander Charles L. Doyle, P.O. Box 278, Everett, MA 02149. By return mail you will receive literature on membership, plus, items of interest about our Association. WHY NOT GIVE US A TRY!

Charles L. Doyle
Commander

COMPANY K, 182 INFANTRY

I am trying to locate William Cardoza who served with me in Company K, 182 Infantry in the Pacific. I would appreciate it very much if you would send me his address if he is a member of the ADVA.

Thank you very much,
Arthur G. Streck

Ed Note: Arthur--William Cardoza is a member of the ADVA but it is against the rules for me to send you his address. I have mailed your letter to him and I hope that he responds soon. Jim

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

246 FIELD ARTILLERY BN

This is a letter to my old friends of the Americal. I was sitting in an island bar in Antigua and saw a man with an Americal Division patch on his hat. Hadn't talked with anyone from the Americal for at least forty years. The man in the hat turned out to be Jim Buckle, who told me about the alumni association and signed me up.

The Americal Newsletter brought back names and places I hadn't thought of in years. I enclose some pictures including one of what we called the 'Million Dollar Tree' on Hill 260 in Bougainville. John Hermin is standing in front of it. It was our O.P. tree and we figured we put about one million dollars worth of ammo onto that hill. Another picture is of Mt. Bagana, another of H. Allen and me (he is the Captain) and finally the survey crew in Headquarters Battery. They are Jim Anderson of Kentucky, Couvillon, Garner, Abe and Dobbins. The survey crew worked above F.D.C. dug-out, and they came down to see us when the shelling started.

I sure have a lot of stories in my head about those days. If anyone from the old 246 F.A. wants to drop a line, it would be good to hear from you.

(T-4 F.D.C.) Rev. William T. Elliott
Hope, MI 48628

Ed Note: Sure glad you came over and spoke to me that day Bill. Send those stories along--I am sure they will be of interest to many members.



Capt. H. Allen William Elliott



Anderson Couvillon Garner
Abe Dobbins

COMPANY B 57 ENGINEERS

I am writing to extend my sympathies and respect for my former Commanding Officer while we were on the New Hebrides and Guadalcanal in 1942. General Elliott was a very dedicated soldier. He was always right up front to volunteer our services and his.

We were 35 Engineers of Company B, 57 Combat unit and were part of Task Force 6814 A. We went ahead of the main force on New Caledonia and helped to build new roads and Bauer Field on Vila, and Bomber I on Espirito Santo.

General Elliott was a fair officer in that he would tell us what he wanted done and then left us alone to our own resources to accomplish the job. He was a great moral booster in those dark days of 1942 when we were alone out there with nothing to protect us.

One of my fondest memories is the way we would reserve the third hole of our latrine every morning just for Elliott. He would tell us what we were going to do in the next few days; which were rumors he was passing around. After the first few times we were well aware of his strategy; but it was something to laugh about and it felt good.

He told us that one of his greatest thrills was when he met Admiral Byrd on Espirito Santo and he was invited to have dinner with him. Here he was --a 1st Lt. and he was dining with an Admiral!

He was one tough man. While we all were coming down with malaria and dysentery he never went to the hospital. Even when he had a severe case of blood poisoning from an insect bite. Elliott kept us so busy from dawn to dusk that we never had time to realize our plight or feel sorry for ourselves. To this day I am ever grateful.

In the book 'Can Do' by Lt. William Bradford Huie, USNR, there is a story of the Sea Bees in which the author compliments Elliott and his men about Bauer Field on Vila, and Bomber I on Espirito Santo. (Chapter 6 - Page 90). Elliott was always in the middle of things that were happening. When I met him in 1983 at the National Reunion on Cape Cod we talked about the many things and I wasn't surprised that he had become a General. He was a National Guard officer and a good one. It was my honor and pleasure to have served under him.

Sincerely,
John Gentile

G COMPANY 182 INFANTRY

I wish to make this donation to the Guadalcanal War Memorial in memory of my brother Vito and all of the men that made the supreme sacrifice from Company G, 182 Infantry.

Michael J. Florio

NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

ALL ARTICLES FOR THE JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1991
NEWSLETTER MUST BE IN JANUARY 1, 1991
ABSOLUTELY!

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

6339 U.S. INTELLIGENCE DETACHMENT

Aloha from sunny and cool Hawaii! Please give me information on whether I can join your Americal Division Veterans Association. We the 6339 U.S. Intelligence & Interrogators Detachment was attached to the Americal Division since inception on New Caledonia in May 1942. Majority of the unit were Japanese-American soldiers except the higher-up who were Caucasian Officers who can talk in Japanese and also they can write and read Japanese fluently. Our criteria is fluency in the Japanese language and that is what made out role so secret.

We had men in the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marines and we would work in groups of 10 or 20. We were skilled linguists and went with the regular troops into battle in the South Pacific, China and Burma where fierce fighting turned the ocean red with bold of ours.

Our job was to scour captured documents, letters, diaries or anything that could give the United States any indication of the enemy's strength and intent. In other situations we interrogated captured Japanese soldiers. So critical was the job in the 'front lines' that Gen. Douglas MacArthur said of us, "Never in military history did an Army know so much about the Japanese enemy prior to actual engagement. This saved countless lives and shortened the war by two years".

Although we were attached to the Americal Division am I qualified as a member or an associate? If qualified, please send me your application form and your Newsletter.

My wife and I visited New Caledonia last year for two weeks and had a most wonderful time. They call it Nouvelle Caledonie and we stayed at the Hotel Isle de France. We gambled at the 'le Casino do Noumea' but lost in the end. The Casino is a place to keep away from!

May GOD richly bless you as you continue to serve HIM.

Mahalo nui loa & Aloha
George and Joyce Iwamoto

P.S. The members of the 6339 U.S. Intelligence and Interrogators Association will hold their 44th Annual Reunion in Waikiki in Hawaii on October 24-27, 1991 and I'm the host.

Ed Note: This letter was forwarded by Joe Micek. George has been sent an application blank.

COMPANY C 182 INFANTRY

This is my contribution to the Guadalcanal Memorial monument.

I hope that this will help put the fund over the top and that the monument will be erected in the near future.

I was a member of Company C, 182 Infantry and this monument will be built near where some close friends were killed or wounded. I donate this in their honor.

Bob Randeau

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

39 MILITARY POLICE

What a great job you are do with the Newsletter!

First, I am delighted that Syd Borgia is still with us. A sign of the times I guess-you can't get reliable information from drunks at cocktail parties!

My informant looked knowledgeable. come to think of it though he did have a slight list to starboard. However, I guess my port side list evened that out. Welcome back Syd.

I am enclosing a photo that turned up recently. That gunny looking M.P. is me in the Spring of 1942. I believe that I was about to strike terror into the hearts of the 101 and 104 truckers on the Noumea-Tontouta run. (Perhaps my old friend and school mates Joe Carder and Charley Warren).

In the background of the snap I can just make out Sammy Kagan from Chicago and Alabama from, where else but Alabama.

Alabama was a terror with a pool cue in Lautoka, Fiji. He was standing on the table, however!

Thanks again for your work on the publication.

Paul Jordan



247 FIELD ARTILLERY

Got my Americal Newsletter yesterday and received a suprise when I read the article on Page 17 regarding Harry Milne. I didn't know that he had survived Hill 26.

I was the non-com in charge of the 246th F.A. Fire Direction Center the night all Hell broke loose.

Can you give me his address or have him contact me? I;m sure he will be interested in the story of what went on in the F.D.C. after his group called "Fire-Mission".

Thanks,
Jack Folmer

Jack's letter was forwarded to Harry Milne and they have been in contact. It must be great to find a buddy alive after all those years.

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

221 FIELD ARTILLERY

Jim Buckle and ADVA Members:

Happy to report a great time was had at our Americal Eastern Chapter Reunion at Fort Monroe, VA.

Many thanks to Pete and Julia Messsina for the excellent job as Chairmen.

I enjoy American history and the Civil War casement, MacArthur Memorial, Norfolk Naval Base were certainly appreciated.

Our Americal picnic on August 4, at Fort Devens and the Americal Convention in Chicago were also great and enjoyable. I am certainly looking forward to the Convention in Hyannis next year!

I would like to thank the following friends in our Americal family, all who have been so very kind to me: Barney Chase, Dominic Russo, Joe D'Ambrosio, Frank Mader, Larry and Barbara Wiegman, John Ford, Jack and Grayce Laffey, John Nightengales, Pete and Julia Messina, Jim Buckle, Ken Turner, Jim Burns, Eileen and Joe Tunis, Bob Thornton, Margie and Warner Huck, Bill Maddox, Henry Doherty and all the member of the ADVA. I want to wish you all a 'Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year'.

Take care and God Bless,
Leo Orfe

Mount Holly, NJ 08060

P.S. I would like to hear from my old buddies.



Leo Orfe
Bougainville '44



Japanese Princess
and Leo Orfe

721 ORDNANCE

Harry Lane, who served with me in the 721 Ordnance is interested in becoming a member of the ADVA. Will you send him a current Newsletter with an application?

It was great to be together in Chicago. We always appreciate everyone's efforts to make the reunions one of camaraderie, fellowship and fun.

We are looking forward to the September gathering at the Chamberlain.

Sincerely,
Otto Boehmig

The Newsletter and application has been sent. Jim

57 ENGINEERS

I hope that the recent editorial in the Americal Newsletter will motivate some of our members to contact their congressmen and demand a Constitutional amendment to protect the FLAG.

Enclosed is a letter I wrote that was published recently in a Montgomery, Alabama newspaper. The sentiments expressed in this letter were unanimously endorsed by my local VFW post.

During a recent visit to my home town of Malden, Massachusetts, I was pleased to discover that many of the people there felt the same way about the FLAG as we do in Alabama.

We must keep after the politicians and not allow them to ignore the issue. The letter:

FLAG AMENDMENT NOW IMPERATIVE

At the close of World War II, no community (or court) in this country would have tolerated the spectacle of some punk publicly desecrating the FLAG. Since then, in the field of jurisprudence, we have come a long way, mostly downhill.

The significant decline took place during the reign of Chief Justice Earl Warren. Prior to that the courts construed freedom of speech to mean just that; freedom of SPEECH. i. e. the spoken word. The Warren court interpreted speech to include freedom of expression. Now the court includes some forms of conduct, no matter how inflammatory.

There are many symbols of our nation. The Constitution and Declaration of Independence are two examples. But we did not fly the Constitution or the Declaration of Independence over Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Anzio, Pusan, Chu Lai, Khe Sahn or from the mast of the Arizona. We flew the FLAG, the unique symbol of our country.

Sure, the FLAG is just a piece of cloth. But the history of our nation is replete with incidents in which men have died defending that piece of cloth.

Amending the Constitution should never be undertaken capriciously. However, in this case, the need is imperative.

Carl E. Kohler

Ed note: Thanks for your article Carl. We need a lot of help here in Massachusetts. Our Senators, Kerry and Kennedy, both voted against an amendment as did all but two member of the House.

182 INFANTRY

Thanks fo the quick reply to my letter. I thought the Insurance Dividend was a hoax but I was sure you had all the facts--thanks!

The Americal Newsletter is wonderful. Keep up the good work.

Your friend,
Jim McCollom

Ed Note: Glad I could help out. Thanks for the kind words and also for trying to locate my friend.

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

THE TRAUMA CENTER

By Otto V. Petr I COMPANY 132 INFANTRY

A few years ago, while driving Chicago's Eisenhower Expressway, on approaching the vast hospital complex, I noticed new signs popping up along the war - "Trauma Center."

I had and idea it meant 'first aid.' However, a medical guide has just two words for it: "Trauma-injury or wound." And the authoritative Webster's was more generous: "Trauma - mental instability due to shock. Pertaining to or applied to wounds, adapted to cure wounds." Pathology: the condition of the system occasioned by a grave wound.

The need for trauma has always been with us, since the days of Cain and Abel. Let us look into one instance that helped bring trauma about:

HE SAVED A LIFE-THEN LOST HIS OWN-BUT HELPED TO
SAVE OTHERWISE LOST LIVES.

New Caledonia Island-the 132 Infantry Regiment, as part of Task Force 6814, landed here on March 12, 1942. On October 21, the following message was received at regimental headquarters:

General Order No. 43, the War Department, Washington, DC, and dated August 29, 1942, received and distributed. Paragraph five of this general order contained the awarding of the Soldier's Medal, under the direction of the President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, to Corporal Steve (last name and serial number), of Company "I" for heroism in the Southwest Pacific area on March 21, 1942.

Yours truly is not too well acquainted with all the details of this heroic act. I do understand Steve had rescued another soldier who had fallen out of a boat. With or without a full field pack on, I cannot say.

"I" Company had so many Italians in it, it was dubbed the 'Italian Company'.

The rest of us felt like outcasts. But Steve was one guy who was well liked by all the men in the regiment who had known him in the Illinois National Guard before the Guard had been inducted into federal service. He took a ribbing, but dished out plenty of his own. Once you met him, you just had to like guy. He was short but stocky, built like a Roman gladiator of his ancestry, and tough as the rugged weapons carrier he drove for the Company. He kept in shape by lifting weights. He bet you could not break free of his armhold if he got hold of your arm.

Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, January 1, 1943: This day, the 132 Infantry, 1st Battalion, conquered Mount Austen. the 1st Battalion made a forced march through dense jungle, just south of the mountain, then proceeded climbing the summit. During the operation, our 'I' Company of the 3rd Battalion faked a diversionary attack on its foothill. In this action, our Steve was shot in this fake fight. At Company 'I' headquarters, I was told to help the wounded corporal to the battalion aid station. Although bleeding (he was able to walk) I believe we even talked during our short walk to the aid station. Before the evening was over, I was to learn that Steve had been lost

Continues next column

THE TRAUMA CENTER (Continues)

on the operating table, for he would not lie still and he bled to death. The regimental surgeon felt just as bad as if he had lost his own son. He swore that in the next campaign, he would follow the attacking force as closely as possible. He insisted speed was needed. As soon as a man was wounded, he could administer trauma care. This he carried out high on a mountain in Bougainville. He operated in a dugout with the aid of a flashlight. After each operation, it took the skill of native carriers to bring down the stretcher from a height of 9000 feet. When the stretcher-carrier did reach an improvised road, an ambulance rushed the patient to the nearest field hospital. The Army was taught a lesson - trauma applied in the very necessary minutes saves lives. Today! Thank almighty God and Steve for the "TRAUMA CENTER"

246 FIELD ARTILLERY BN.

I noticed in a recent Newsletter that you sent a request for or "Under the Southern Cross" to Ken Turner. Would you do the same for me? My copy was borrowed and never returned.

Incidentally, I helped Captain Cronin somewhat on developing the book which turned out well.

My son was a Cobra pilot with the Americal in Vietnam. I would like to suprise him with a Life Membership. His Med Evac unit recently been called to active duty, so he is back in uniform.

Best regards,
Chet Holloway

Ed Note: Colonel, I have forwarded you requests. Good to hear from you. Jim





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Shawnee Mission, KS 66219-2121

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)