

★ GUADALCANAL

★ NORTHERN SOLOMONS

★ LEYTE

★ SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

★ VIETNAM



FOUNDED 1945

JULY - AUGUST 1991

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

THE OLD AND THE NEW



NATIONAL COMMANDER
ROLAND T. CASTRONOVA

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER
RONALD L. WARD

NATIONAL CONVENTIONAL HYANNIS, MASSACHUSETTS JUNE 1991

1991 NATIONAL OFFICERS 1992

NATIONAL COMMANDER

Roland T. Castronova
Peabody, MA 01960

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Peter J. Messina
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

John H. DeGroot
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

NATIONAL FINANCE OFFICER

Joseph Chin
Lincoln, MA 01773

NATIONAL ADJUTANT

Bernard C. Chase
So. Yarmouth, MA 02664

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

James C. Buckle Chairman
Bernard C. Chase
Bernard J. Carroll
Hugh J. Murnaghan
Alfred R. Doig
James J. Flynn
Robert N. Thornton
Joseph A. Anderson
John V. Nightingale
Kevin R. Barry
Lawrence G. Cotter

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
VACANT	Far West Chapter
David L. Recob	Central Mid-West Chapter
VACANT	Southern California

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

Telephone [REDACTED]

VIETNAM EDITOR

Ronald L. Ward
St. Louis, MO 63123

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

First, I would like to say it is a great honor to be elected National Commander of the Americal Division Veterans Association.

My priority as your Commander will be the recruiting of new members. This past year was our best year, ever, in recruiting new members. With all the men that are eligible to be members, the Americal Division Veterans Association should be much, much larger than it is. We are already the BEST--now let us be one of the biggest!

Ron Ward, our first Vietnam era Commander, did one great job. He is a fine man and I am proud to be a friend of his.

The 1991 Convention in Hyannis was a huge success! Our thanks should go to Bernie Chase and his committee that was composed of Pat and Bill McLaughlin and Lorraine and Hugh Murnaghan. They did a one fantastic job.

The food, accommodations, the side trips and the entertainment were all fabulous. The hospitality room was sure a great place to meet and talk with old friends and to meet new ones. The turnout of members was the best ever---I enjoyed myself tremendously!

The update of the Guadalcanal-Solomon Islands War Memorial by Joe Micek was excellent. Our Association has raised close to \$15,000 toward the monument but there is still a need for \$150,000 to complete the work. I beg all members, especially the NAM vets to step forward and send a contribution even if it is for only \$5.00. It would be greatly appreciated. Doctor Robert C. Muehrcke and Joseph Micek have done a super job with this project. Send to our Adjutant:

Bernard C. Chase

South Yarmouth, MA 02664

I would also like to thank George Yates for the donation of his Championship Boxing Belt and the large plaque, to the Americal Museum. These will be added treasures to the Museum. Also, George should write an article for the Americal Newsletter telling of the origin of the Belt. He explained it to me and I found it very, very interesting and I am sure the members would enjoy reading the story.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the people that have helped me greatly--Bernie Chase, Jim Buckle, Bob Thornton, and Ken Turner. My thanks also goes to the late Francis Diorio, who was one super person and I miss him very much.

Congratulations to our Senior Vice Commander Pete Messina, Junior Vice Commander John DeGroot and our National Finance Officer Joe Chin. Joe deserves an especially large 'thank you' for all the time and effort that he has recently put into establishing the ADVA as a non-profit organization.

I am already looking forward 1992 and a successful Convention in San Antonio.

Again my thanks to Bernie Chase, Pat and Bill McLaughlin and Lorraine and Hugh Murnaghan for the super job they did in putting the '91 Convention together and making it a huge success.

Yours in comradeship,

Roland T. Castronova

MONTHLY A.D.V.A. MEETINGS

September 14, 1991

Americal Museum Fort Devens, MA
Executive Council Meeting 12:00-Noon
General Meeting 1:00 P.M.

October 12, 1991

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

November 9, 1991

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

AMERICAL PICNIC

On Saturday August 10, 1991, we will have a picnic at the Americal Museum, Ft. Devens, Ayer, Mass. Coffee and doughnuts will be served starting at 10.00 a.m. Bring your own chairs, tables, lunch ect. Plan on staying from 10.00 a.m. until 5.00 p.m. This will be held Rain or Shine. We know that this will be a late notice but so many members at the Reunion wanted us to have one so we hope the Newsletter gets the word out on time.

TAPS

William J. Armandi
132 Infantry
Chicago, IL
May 26, 1991

Patrick Jennings
101 Quartermaster
Winchester, MA
June 15, 1991

Walter B. Robinson
26 Signal
Natick, MA
June 3, 1991

George Spinos
125 Quartermaster
Texas
June 1991

Col. James R. Waldie
198 LIB
Port St. Lucie, FL
May 23, 1991

Arthur L. Hatfield
132 Infantry
Loves Park, IL
Date Unknown

Forrest A. Mengel
245 F.A. Bn.
W. Reading, PA
April 21, 1991

Gerald Sellers
182 Infantry
Wellesley, MA
May 22, 1991

Ernest A. Tetrault
125 Quartermaster
Leeds, MA
June 15, 1991

Charles H. Lee
182 Infantry
Hingham, MA
August 30, 1990

CONVALESCING

Elbert R. Horton
[REDACTED]
Timberlake, NC 27583

Joseph Lonergan
[REDACTED]
Lowell, MA 01852

IF YOU LEARN OF THE DEATH OF A MEMBER, OR OF A MEMBER WHO IS ILL PLEASE NOTIFY:

Adi. Bernard C. Chase
[REDACTED]
South Yarmouth, MA 02664

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

NEW LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Gregory R. Entrekin
Co. C 1/52 Inf. 198
Wheaton, IL

John G. Groppi
Co. H 182 Infantry
Dorchester, MA

Jean Hammel
Service Btry. 221 F.A.
Hackettstown, NJ

Thomas E. Kreidler
1/14 Arty.-1/6 Inf. 198
Wilmette, IL

Jalmer S. Logan
Co. C- Hq 1 Bn. 132 Inf.
Omaha, NE

Noe Mata
Co. A 1/52 Inf. 198
Houston, TX

James J. McGuire
198 Bde.
Waldorf, MD

Verner Pike
23rd MP'S
Vienna, VA

George Vieto
Co. E 182 Infantry
Metairie, LA

NEW MEMBERS

Leonard S. Graham
Btry. A 221 F.A. Bn.
Gloucester, VA
#E.R. Horton

John G. Groppi
Co. H 182 Infantry
Dorchester, MA
#Leo H. Volta

Donald D. Hall
Co. A 3/1 Inf. 11 Bde.
Worland, WY
#Bernie Chase

Harvey L. Hansen
Co. B 164 Infantry
West Ossipee, NH
#Bernie Chase

Jesse L. Helms
5/46 Inf. 198 Bde.
Greenville, SC
#Self

Frank J. Hensley
Co. C 4/3 Infantry
APO NY
#William Maddox

Perry M. Johnston
Co. B 182 Infantry
Cogan Station, PA
#Reunion Com.

Eugene Koeppe
Co. B 132 Infantry
Lisle, IL
#James Buckle

Thomas E. Kreidler
1/14 Art.-1/6 Inf. 198
Wilmette, IL
#Ron Ward

Wallace D. Kuykendall
21st Recon.
San Marcos, CA
#Robert Thornton

Lawrence J. Laake Jr.
Co. C 37 Sig. 1st Sig.
London, TX
#Bernie Chase

Douglas N. Leaman
26 Signal
Plymouth, MA
#Bernie Chase

Dennis Lippincott
HHQ Co. 6 Bn. 1 Inf.
Seattle, WA
#Roland Castronova

Jalmer S. Logan
Co. C-Hq 1 Bn. 132 Inf.
Omaha, NE
#David L. Recob

John R. Lohman
14th Arty.
Huntingdon, PA
#Roland Castronova

Hiram O. Mc Adow
Co. A 164 Inf.-Hq 1 132
Atchison, KS
#David L. Recob

Joseph G. McClintock
101-121 Med- 52 F. Hosp.
Methuen, MA
#Self

Douglas C. McGarraugh
Co. B 1/52 Inf 198 1 Cav
Perryton, TX
#Robert Thornton

Don Malone
Co. D 1 Inf. 198
Concord, CA
#Robert Thornton

William R. Merideth
11th Bde.
Vancouver, WA
#Bernie Chase

James B. Murphy
197th Bde.
Baltimore, MD
#Roland Castronova

Stanley C. Olszeski Jr.
3 Bn. 16th Arty.
Romeoville, IL
#Bernie Chase

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

NEW MEMBERS

Verner N. Pike 23rd MP'S Vienna, VA #David L. Recob	Nicholas J. Prevas Jr. Co. C-HHC 4/3 Inf. Highland, MD #Self
Col. Nicholas R. Pugliese 23rd MP'S Boise, ID #David L. Recob	Danny Robinson 23rd MP'S Valpariso, IN #Larry Gelnett
Bruce Rosin 23rd MP'S Redondo Beach, CA #Roland Castronova	Michael Allen Ross Cos. G-D 3/21 Inf. 196 Fayetteville, NC #Self
Richard Alan Ruh Co. A 4/3 Inf. 11 Bde. San Luisobispo, CA #Roland Castronova	Robert Reed Russell 23rd MP'S Winston Salem, NC #Larry Gelnett
Arthur R. Ryrholm Btry. B 246 F.A. Bn. Whispering Pines, NC #Jim Buckle	Amby Samuel Sanchez Co. E 3/1 Inf. 11 Bde. Davenport, IA #Bernie Chase
George S. Scott 111 Btry. A 1/14th Arty. Jacksonville, FL #Bernie Carroll	Dan Sexton Co. D 2/1 Inf. 196 Bde. Cincinnati, OH #Charles T. Sizemore
Johnnie Willard Shaffer Co. A 4/21 Inf. 11 Bde. Huttonsville, WV #Roland Castronova	Ronald J. Sheldon E Troop 1 Cav. 11 Bde. Kansas City, MO #David L. Recob
Franklin D. Shipley Co. K 3/20 Infantry Knoxville, TN #Bernie Chase	Victor A. Spracklin Hq. Co. 182 Infantry Stoneham, MA #Jim Buckle
Lolita Goldizen Stacy 109 Sta. Hospital Elida, Ohio Col. King-Jane Terry	Barry Turner Co. A 23rd SAT Richmond, KY #Ron Davis
Nathan Van Cos. M-Hq. 164 Infantry Pembroke Pines, FL #Irving Deutsch	Vance A. Van Wieren Co. D 4/31 Inf. 196 Bde. Fennville, MI #Roland Castronova
Earl N. Wall Co. B 147 Infantry Iron Mountain, MI #William M. Chaney	Jackie R. Webb 71 AHC Co.-19 Combat Kannapolis, NC #Dwight Fanshaw
Theodore R. Bull F Troop 8 Cav.-570 TC D. Sanlois Obispo, CA #Roland Castronova	Malcolm S. Cate Jr. 26 Signal Waltham, MA #John L. Richardson
William C. Collier Cos. A+E 1/6 Inf. 198 Oxford, MS #Robert Thornton	Jimmie E. Deiter Btry B 3/16 Art. Ser 3/18 Fostoria, OH #Bernie Chase
Peter R. Delpome Co. C 1/20 Inf. 11 Bde. Randolph, NJ #Robert Thornton	M/Sgt. Charles S. Dinges 14th Avn Bn 178 ASHC Genoa, IL #Tony Percoskie
Roy L. Dolgas HHC MP'S 196 Bde. Chicago, IL #Robert Thornton	Paul S. Eldred 7 Avn. 14 Avn. Bn. 16 Grp. South Amboy, NJ #Robert Thornton

NEW MEMBERS

Jon Bales Co. C 5/46 Inf. 198 Glendale, CA #Bernie Chase	J. A. Berk Hq. Btry. 245 F.A. Bn. Vermilion, Ohio #Robert Thornton
Alphonse Bourgeois HHC 11 Bde. New Orleans, LA #Larry Gelnett	Steven P. Brooks Co. C 1/46 Inf. 196 Columbus, NE #Roland Castronova
Tom Brown Co. C 1/46 Inf. 196 Manhattan Beach, CA #Self	Charles W. Bruce 6 Bn. 56 Arty. Scituate, MA #Bernie Chase
David James Wiedel Co. A 864 Eng. Co P 1/20 Co. C 6th Sup. Bn. 11 Bde Wasecp, MN #Self	David L. Wifall Co. B 1/46 Inf. 196 Bde. Missoula, MT #Roland Castronova
Greg Winoschiti HHC 3 Bn. 18th Arty. Rochester, MN #Robert Thornton	Arthur M. Wood Associate Member Newburyport, MA #Arthur R. Wood
	Wilmer E. Wynia Co. D-HHQ 1/52 Inf 198 Rock Valley, IA #Bill McLaughlin

#Sponsor

63 New Members for these two months. Keep up the good work. We are trying for 300 new members this year.

NOTICE

The following named men will be dropped from membership for non-payment of dues as of this Newsletter. If your name is listed in error please notify Adjutant Bernie Chase IMMEDIATELY!

Clifton F. Berry Jr. Clifford E. Brink Francis P. Delfgauw Frank DeSilvo Daniel T. Erlich Eugene F. Frantz Joseph Galanelli Mayo K. Gravett Albert Hamel	Oran O. Hayes Clifton Huston Rodney D. Kruger Robert E. Morris Lloyd A. Perry Arthur E. Shore Jr. Daniel J. Sullivan Donald Van Estenbridge Anthony Zanghi
--	--

COMMANDERS NOTE

Also, we have four members of the Military Police from Vietnam, Larry Gelnett, Dutch DeGroot, Brian Mulcrone, and David Recob, who have put a tremendous amount of work into a program and have come up with 1000 potential members from their outfit and they are presently trying to recruit them into our organization. John (Dutch) DeGroot is now our Junior Vice Commander and Dave Recob is secretary of the Central Mid-West Chapter that he founded with many hours spent on the key board.

HAVE YOU CALLED THAT BUDDY YET?
DO IT TODAY!

CHAPTERS

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CHAPTER
AL, FL, GA, NC, SC, TN

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

SOUTH MID WEST REGIONAL CHAPTER
AK, LA, MS, OK, TX

Regional Commander
William K. Maddox
Portland, TX 78374
Telephone [REDACTED]

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CHAPTER
IL, IN, MI, MN, WI

Regional Commander
Rush G. Propper
Swartz Creek, MI 48473

FAR WEST REGIONAL CHAPTER
AZ, N. CA, CO, HI, NV,
ND, SD, UT, NM

VACANT

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

CALL CHAPTER COORDINATOR WRITE

Adl. Bernard C. Chase
[REDACTED]
South Yarmouth, MA 02664
Telephone [REDACTED]

WILLIAM E. MCGOLDRICK-CAPE COD CHAPTER
Plymouth & Wareham & South of the Canal

Cape Cod Chapter Commander
Allen D. Cappella
[REDACTED]
Plymouth, MA 02360

EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER
DC, DE, KY, NY, OH, PA, VA, WV, MD, NJ

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

CENTRAL MID WEST CHAPTER
IOWA KANSAS MISSOURI NEBRASKA

David L. Recob
[REDACTED]
Topeka, KS 66611
Tel: [REDACTED] 1

CHAPTERS

NORTH WEST CHAPTER
ALASKA, WASHINGTON, OREGON, IDAHO,
MONTANA, WYOMING

NOW FORMING -- CONTACT

Lloyd J. Morrell
[REDACTED]
Redmond, OR 97756-9612

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

VACANT

CALL ADJ. BERNARD C. CHASE

CHAPTER NEWS

SOUTH MID-WEST CHAPTER

Members of the Committee met on May 18, 1991 at the Casa Elena Restaurant in Conroe, Texas. After the meal Dan Dinklage, a new member of our Chapter, showed slides that he took in Vietnam. Afterwards, we discussed how each member could help with the National Convention in 1992. I believe we had a very productive meeting and a good time was had by all.

The following member and wives were present: Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm East, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Doyle, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Jones and wife (Philip is a new member), Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Mendoza Mr. and Mrs. William Maddox and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Schulgen. J.W. Mitchell, Lewis Guidy, Bob Vanlear, and Paul Amason also attended. These three men are new members.

The National Convention for 1992 will be held June 18-21 at the Holiday Inn Riverwalk, North San Antonio.

There are a lot of members of the ADVA that are not members of Chapters--come on men, how about joining one in your area today!

Sincerely,
Bill Maddox

CENTRAL MID-WEST CHAPTER

The Central Mid-West Chapter is off and running and now consists of over fifty members.

This chapter will host the National Convention in 1993. We promise something different---

It will be memorable, with a little taste of the west spiced into it, with tours of Fort Leavenworth and Fort Riley, the two furthestmost forts west of the Missouri River in the 1850's when pioneers headed westward to settle the land.

Kansas is not all hot and humid prairie like the Wizard of Oz film!

Ron Ward has accepted the post of Chapter Commander and I by choice, will continue in the position of Secretary-Treasurer.

Sincerely,
David L. Recob

CHAPTER NEWS

EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER

The Valley Forge area is noted for its reunion facilities. Your 1991 Reunion chairman has planned an active and fun filled chapter Reunion. Join us by in the enclosed reunion registration form. All of your paid tickets will be picked up at the Reunion registration desk at the Hotel on Thursday, September 19, 1991 between 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. in the Hospitality Room. I must stress to please make reservations as early as possible. We need to know how big a bus will be needed for our touring and how many will be coming to our dinner business meeting.

The block of rooms set aside for our chapter reunion will be released to the general public September 5, 1991. After that you will be taking a chance of getting a room for they usually sell out early.

All hotel reservations will be made directly with the hotel by calling 215-647-6700 or by sending in the enclosed registration card. Rooms are \$79 plus tax which includes a full course breakfast. There will be a \$20 per person charge for over 2 people in a room.

Room reservations must be made directly with the hotel. Please give them early notice in event of cancellation. Paid reservations for tours and the banquet must be made only with Steve Dennison.

Please make your reservations early. In doing this confusion is held to a minimum. Remember, all hotel rooms are suites. Nothing is planned for Thursday or Friday nights so you will be on your own. The hotel has a beautiful swimming pool, sauna and whirlpool. And last, but not least, you may relax in their lounge and enjoy their singing bartender. This is a unique experience to watch and listen to this multi-talented person who sings and runs a bar at the same time.

Within minutes of the hotel you have the fabulous King of Prussia mall with 350 exciting stores and restaurants including Macy's, Bloomingdale's, and John Wanamaker. All this is at route 202 and Goddard Boulevard where the Expressway meets the Turnpike.

If you wish to be pampered, meet nice people, make new friends and enjoy the sightseeing at Valley Forge, then don't miss this year's chapter reunion. I would like to extend a special invitation to the wives to attend. They always seem to enjoy themselves. Please make it to Valley Forge this year and show your Commander your support. A good time will be had by all.

Please write to me or call for a complete brochure on the Chapter Reunion:
Steve Dennison

Pittsburgh, PA 15227
Telephone [REDACTED]

Steve Dennison
Commander

1991 AMERICAL CONVENTION

The 1991 Reunion will go down on the books as probably the largest one in attendance that the A.D.V.A. has ever had. We had over 700 people who came to the hotel to pay a visit over the four days that we were there. Saturday's Dinner-Dance had 540 members and guest present. The 1991 Reunion Committee and the Cape Cod Chapter want to say thanks to all who came and especially to those who helped to make the Reunion a success. One of the things that could have turned out a little better was our Band Concert. The 215th Army Band was great but after four or five numbers Mother Nature paid us a dirty trick when a freak Thunder Storm came from out of nowhere, every one ran for cover and that put a end to our concert.

The 182nd Infantry took top honors for having the most members and guest present 136. The 221st F.A. was in second place with 105, 247th F.A. 58, 101-125 Quartermaster 52, 101-121 Medical 46. These were the top five, but many other units made good showings. The 109th Station Hospital had six of their members present and it was good to see these fine people who took good care of us when we were sick or wounded while overseas.

Room 500 was a good gathering place for our young Vietnam Veterans, and we are glad that so many showed up for this Reunion. Quite a few of the W.W. 11 Vets. put a little time in room 500 also.

Quite a few members who had made plans to attend had to cancel at the last minute because of sickness and accidents and other reasons. We hope that everyone is better by now.

The pictures that were taken for the Reunion Book will be mailed out to everyone that had their picture taken. You will select the picture that you want to appear in the book. It usually takes four to six months before these book will be ready for mailing.

Marie Chalmers 48 Aldrich Street Roslindale, Mass. 02131, the young lady that was present at all our functions, takes Video Pictures of all the activities reports that the tapes are all set to be mailed. The price is \$25.00. If you are interested contact Marie at the above address. For those who did not attend the Reunion, buy a tape and see what a good time you missed.

Next years Reunion will be in Texas where we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the forming of the Americal Division in May of 1942. In 1993 we will be in the State of Kansas. Make your plans to attend these two Reunions.

ATTENTION!

We are still looking for someone to reform the lower California Chapter and also someone to take over the Far-West Chapter. As you know, Lloyd Morrell, who founded the Far-West Chapter is moving to Oregon in May and he feels he can not run the Chapter successfully from there.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED CONTACT:

Adj. Bernard C. Chase
[REDACTED]
South Yarmouth, MA 02664
Telephone [REDACTED]

1991

COMMANDERS APPOINTMENTS

1992

NATIONAL ADJUTANT
PNC Bernard C. Chase

NATIONAL PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN
Rev. Neil M. Higbee

NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN
Rev. Paul Chaisson

NATIONAL HISTORIAN
W. Mark Durley Jr.

NATIONAL SERGEANT-AT ARMS
Warren G. H. Reed

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
PNC James C. Buckle

VIETNAM EDITOR
PNC Ronald L. Ward

CHAPTER COORDINATOR
PNC Bernard C. Chase



MUSEUM DIRECTOR Robert Doucette
Kenneth Turner

A beautiful hand carved eagle was recently presented to the Americal Museum by Robert Doucette, a former member of L Company, 182 Infantry.

The eagle is covered with gold leaf and the Americal Shield is clutched in his talons.

The above picture shows Bob presenting the eagle to Museum Director, Kenneth Turner.

Bob Doucette would like to hear from any of the buddies he served with. You may contact him by calling [REDACTED]

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The following dates are the deadlines for the 1991 AMERICAL NEWSLETTER.

September	-	October	September 1, 1991
November	-	December	November 1, 1991
January	-	February	January 1, 1992

CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20318-0001

8 June 1991

To the Veterans of the Americal Division

On behalf of your Armed Forces, greetings and best wishes from a fellow veteran of the great Americal Division. My duties in Washington keep me from sharing this reunion with you in person, but not in spirit.

Today, the 8th of June, President Bush, Secretary Cheney, and I reviewed thousands of Desert Storm troops marching through the streets of the Nation's capitol to celebrate our magnificent victory in the Gulf war. Two days from now, thousands of troops and other Americans will march to a ticker-tape celebration in New York City.

In every parade and event I have participated in since the Gulf war ended, I have taken with me into the celebrations every single American veteran from the past. Vietnam veterans especially go with me -- in my heart, in my mind, and in my soul. The Americal Division, whose Southern Cross is on my shoulder, participates as prominently and as proudly as all the rest, with a very special place in my heart and in the hearts of all Americans.

I know all of you are with me also -- in spirit, in best wishes, and in the comradeship of arms. I hope you have the very best reunion ever!

Sincerely,

COLIN L. POWELL
Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff

No doubt all of our members are upset, as we the staff here at the Americal Museum are, to hear that Fort Devens is on the list of Army installations to be closed.

We are not in full panic as yet because there is still a small chance, if Congress kills the entire list. In the event that the closing comes to pass, it will be a few years before the process is complete. The Army still intends to keep over half of the acreage as a training site and if we are fortunate our building may be on the acreage that the Army holds.

You can be assured that the Director of the Americal Museum will be in contact with the officials at Fort Devens and will keep the membership posted as to what is happening.

Kenneth R. Turner
Museum Director

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

VIETNAM EDITORS COMMO

At the last reunion in Hyannis, I passed command of the ADVA on to Rolly Castronova, a man who saw his action with the 11th LIB as a combat medic. I've enjoyed working with Rolly for the past years and know that he will do well as our new National Commander. He's a man of few words as those who attended the reunion banquet will testify but he's a tireless worker for the ADVA who has greatly increased our membership through his efforts. In the coming year, I look forward to continued growth of the Association under his leadership.

At the reunion's business meeting, there was a spirited debate concerning the purchase of plaques to be purchased by the Association and placed at various National Cemeteries in honor of fallen comrades. Realizing that this could become an intolerable expense to the Association treasury if we received too many requests, it was decided that we would permit funding of \$1000 per plaque once a year in each of the individual chapter areas. One plaque per chapter. This seemed to satisfy everyone and enough now has been said about that project. The plaque debate took considerable time and we were unable to discuss other agendas that I feel should have been brought to the floor. Perhaps next year, we should allow more time for the meeting? Bill Maddox, make note of that suggestion.

Over the reunion weekend, I was approached by several members who expressed concern that our current by-laws could use some revision in the area of our finances. I've made some notes as to what we could do as far as by-law changes and will be organizing them into formal petitions. Another area that perhaps should be looked at is the manner in which we conduct our voting by the Executive Council. I would hope that this year we could begin a mail in vote by all Executive Council members with a two thirds majority off council members being needed to pass or fail a vote. This too will require by-law revisions and I will soon be formally presenting my proposal to all council members. I strongly believe that there should be no deviation from the by-laws when conducting Association business. Some changes are in order to eliminate "grey areas".

On a lighter note, I'd like to see the largest crowd of Americal vets ever at the Kokomo Vietnam Vets Reunion Sept 13-15. Our turnout was great last year, this year will be better! Just look for the Americal tent on the fairgrounds. You can't miss it with those good looking flags we'll be flying.

See you all there.

198 Light Infantry Brigade

I regret to inform you of the death of my husband, Colonel James R. Waldie. He formed and commanded the 198 LIB from May 17, 1967 to June 2, 1968. It was formed at Fort Bliss, Texas, and from there it was taken to Vietnam. Building this unit was dear to him and the high point of his 31 year career. These men were very important to him.

Sincerely,
Betty C. Waldie

HAVE YOU CALLED THAT BUDDY YET?
DO IT NOW!

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL DEDICATION
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN
OCTOBER 19-20, 1991

OCTOBER 19, 1991

Parade

- 11:00 am Pre Parade Reception for dignitaries
- 12:00 pm Staging area at 7th and Wisconsin
- 1:00 pm Parade begins
- 3:00 pm Parade ends at Veterans Park
- Stationary display of military equipment

OCTOBER 20, 1991

Dedication Ceremony - Memorial site at Veterans Park

- 12:30 pm Music
- 1:00 pm Begin flyover, speakers
- 2:30 pm National Anthem

Reception and banquet - Pfister Hotel

- 4:00 pm Reception
- 5:00 pm Dinner
- 7:00 pm Program
- 8:00 pm Music, dancing

Your National Commander, Rolly Castronova, and Vietnam Editor, Ron Ward, will be in Milwaukee for this dedication. We'll have the Division flags and intend to march in the parade. We'd like to set up a hospitality suite for the troops at one of the local hotels. I'd like for any member who lives in that area and has first hand knowledge of the area to contact the editor with advice as to which hotel to use for our hospitality. Write or call me at 314-631-4106

Co. P 1/20 Inf. - Co. B 6th Sup. Bn.

I served two tours in Vietnam. The first with Co. A 864 Engr. Bn. My second tour I started with Co. P 1/20 Infantry, 11th Bde. I served from April 67 starting in Hawaii and went by ship December 67 to Vietnam. I served with Co. P until February 68 then was attached to Co. B 6th Support Bn. 11 Bde. until discharged July 31, 1968.

Enclosed is my dues and copies of records. I need to hear from men in PLPLO Company for disability claim. I would like to hear from M/Sgt Pruz, Capt. Caravello, Ray DeVincent or any other fellows that remember me. How many of you PLPLO boys remember the call "Wiedel" up front when we were in a sticky spot. Please anyone who remembers please contact me. I need your help now. I covered your butts as best I could, I'll bet you agree.

David James Wiedel
wasecp, MN 56093

New Member Charles L. Miller who served with the 1/46th Infantry 198th LIB (Company E) from Oct 67 thru Oct 68, fighting off Hill 69, is looking for old comrades. He wants any information regarding the units service, news articles, rosters, etc. He also would like to investigate the possibility of a battalion reunion. His address follows.

Charles L. Miller
Raleigh, ND 58564

phone #

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

178th Assault Support Hel. Co.

Dear Americal Division Veterans Association:

I know that at times the 178th Assault Support Helicopter Company "Box Cars" came under 1st Aviation Brigade. I know that they were several periods in which we came directly under Americal Division. But the bottom line is that we nearly always directly supported Americal Division and were the only "heavy" support until the 132nd ASHO moved into Chu Lai in June of 1968. At different times I was told to wear the 1st Brigade Patch and the Americal Patch. My old field jacket still has Americal on the right shoulder and 1st Bde. on the left. Confusing? It sure was to me. Guess that's why my old field jacket still has both patches on it. Anyway, I was the guy that scheduled mission for Tony Percoskie and Dan Shoplock and, sometimes when they were real hard up for gunners, they would let me ride the gun. After Nam I went back to my airline job with Braniff International Airways in air operations at O'Hare Field in Chicago. About 1980 things were getting pretty shaky at the old airline and someone said the Air Force Reserve was looking for vets. They gave me a deal I couldn't refuse, Staff Sergeant with a one year trial enlistment! It turned out to be a good decision because in May of 1982, Braniff died suddenly, along with it my airline career. The Air Force then took me on as a full time reservist (Air Reserve Technician with a mandatory military commitment) and here I am, back with the military! This time I'm going to hang around for retirement. Just finished my second war in the military (but hoping they won't have any more til I retire) and I must say, they did it right this time! Of course, that's because Americal Officers (and other Vietnam vets) ran it this time and were determined to do it right. Now I'm really glad I was in the military for the Gulf War, the support was outstanding this time (and still is)! At this time we are still on 24 hours here in the Command Post, mainly to make sure that our medical people still over there (helping the Kurds & Iraqi refugees) get all the support they need (we patch through calls to family and friends and many other services) and when anyone returns (as a group or individual) they are always met by a welcoming committee of friends, relatives and officials, both civilian and military - AND THIS TIME THERE ARE NO JEERS AND NO ONE GETS SPIT ON! NO JANE FONDAS AND DEMONSTRATORS! JUST A LOT OF YELLOW RIBBONS AND CHEERS OF JOY! Sure wish it had been that way for us after Nam, but I am real happy for these people and PROUD to be serving again.

I know that I enclosed more documents than you requested, but you might find them interesting. No need to return any of them. They are all copies. It's interesting how the size of the orders has changed. I couldn't get the copier here to double side the old orders because of the size difference.

I have an old friend who was in the 198 Lt. Inf. Bde., I'll have to ask if he is a member. Also, I have lots of maps, charts, notes, ect. from Nam. Maybe someone will be interested.

Thanks,

M/Sgt. Chuck Dinges
Genoa, IL 60135

CHAPLAIN'S SECTION CHU LAI

While at the Chicago parade on May 10th., Americal MP Brian Mulcrone was fortunate to meet up with SGM Will Rogers, who was a staff chaplain with Task Force Oregon. He promised Brian some follow up articles on the chaplains section in Chu Lai. The following is a letter from SGM Rogers that will bring back some memories of the old division camp at Chu Lai.

Dear Mr. Mulcrone;

I am enclosing a copy of orders dated 9 April 1967 sending me TDY to "Project Oregon" for 90 days. I stayed beyond that until it was activated into the Americal Division. Chaplain (LTC) Burton Hatch, Chaplain (Major) Edward Flatley, myself, SP/4 Terry Covington and one other chaplain assistant comprised the original chaplain section. I have forgotten the last name of the other assistant, but his first name was John. I left Bien Hoi for Saigon and then on a Japanese LST with our vehicle, trailer and all the office equipment for Chu Lai. I met the others of the staff when I arrived. Me, Covington and the other assistant, John, started the section. Chaplain Hatch and Chaplain Flatley came in a few days later on a chopper. Our location was on the corner. We were the first section as you came on the compound. The chapel was right across from our office. There was a dental clinic, I think, just in front of us, staffed with Navy personnel. Chaplain (Major) Tony Wildwerding followed Chaplain Flatley as assistant chaplain. Chaplain (Captain) James Rogers, DISCOM Chaplain was located next door and conducted some of the worship services in the chapel. It was relatively quiet during our tenure there. About a month after I departed Command, the hooch I lived in was destroyed in a rocket attack. The Division came into being just before I PCSed. The activation ceremony was attended by General Westmoreland. The time frame, I believe, was October 1967. I hope this short overview fills in some areas.

Sincerely,
Will W. Rogers Sergeant Major, U.S. Army



May 10, 1991 parade in Chicago to honor Desert Storm veterans and veterans of all other wars. Photos courtesy Gary Noller

WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED YOUR NEWSLETTER
PASS IT ON TO A NON-MEMBER

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?



VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAL DIVISION

13 OCTOBER, 1967

GENERAL ORDERS .

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

GEORGE, PHILLIP A. RA 18 959 118 PFC E3 U.S. Army, Company B, 39th Engineer Bn, (Combat) APO 96374
Awarded: Silver Star
Date Action: 12 August 1967
Theater: Republic of Vietnam
For gallantry in action against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. PFC George distinguished himself by heroic action on 12 August 1967 when elements of B Company, 39th Engineer Bn. came under heavy sniper fire during an opening and clearing operation along Robertson Road which delayed progress for four hours. Whenever the engineer vehicles started to move, sniper fire from undetected positions in the nearby marsh and hill would force the drivers to jump for cover. It soon became obvious that unless the road was finished and the convoy moved on through, the work party would be vulnerable to attack when darkness fell. Although fully aware of the danger involved, PFC George volunteered to complete the work on the road with his bulldozer. He refused to jump for cover even though sniper rounds were ricocheting off his machine. In spite of the fact that he was completely exposed to enemy fire, PFC George courageously remained at the controls of his bulldozer and finished clearing the road. When the engineer convoy started through, the third vehicle was hit by enemy fire and run partly off the road. It could not be moved and blocked the escape of all vehicles behind it. The snipers began to concentrate their fire on the blocked vehicles. A call went out to PFC George who by this time had reached a secure area about a mile down the road. He unhesitatingly turned his bulldozer around and drove back to the vehicle, under sniper fire all the way. PFC George hooked onto the vehicle and pulled it through the rice paddies, still under enemy fire. Due to his outstanding courage and coolness under fire, the engineer element was saved from the possibility of a Viet Cong attack. PFC George's valor, selfless devotion to duty and willingness to risk his own life to save those of his comrades are in the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Americal Division and the United States Army.

Editors note: Thanks to ace demo-man and tunnel rat Maurice Henson 196th LIB, for sending us this award citation. We'd enjoy printing some others if they are received at the newsletter.

Co. C, 1/46 Infantry

Please forgive the delay in getting this to you; seems like I just kept putting it off. Please find enclosed my dues and membership application. I served as a grunt in the 1st Platoon Co. C, 1/46 Infantry from July 1971 through the end of January, 1972, when I was transferred to the 196 Bde's 10th Public Information Detachment, where I worked as a combat correspondent and photographer for the Brigade newspaper the "Charger", as well as the Army Times, USARV Reporter and occasionally Stars and Stripes until I rotated home at the end of April. For a few short months I took the opportunity to tell the world about the incredible daily heroism of the grunts, door gunners, chopper pilots, field medics, and all the others in the bush of I Corps. When I returned to the states, they processed us out of the Army by the thousands as soon as we returned to the World.

Through the years since, while building my career and family, I have moved around a lot, searching for work where the men displayed the courage, drive and commitment I found in a rifle company. I'm sure you and many others looked for the same thing, and you already know what I found: Nothing. And, after twenty years, I realize I'm not going to find it. That was a very special world that doesn't exist anymore, except in my memories and those of my comrades in arms.

When I received my first copy of the Association newsletter, I couldn't put it down. For the hour it took to read it, I was back in the bush with all the brave men I admire so much. Please keep the newsletter coming, and if there's a chapter somewhere near eastern Nebraska I'd like to get in touch. I'd also like to get in touch with two good friends, Mike Williams and Keith Rasmussen. Keith was from somewhere in the Dakotas, and Mike was planning to settle down in San Francisco, when I heard last in 1972. If they're Association members, would you please pass the word for me?
Many Thanks

Steven P. Brooks
[REDACTED]
Columbus, NE 68601

ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

"Rock-'N-Roll", action mean,
Feed the ravenous war machine
Score "Body Count" but keep it clean

Good or bad, results the same,
Slug it out, take the blame,
"Don't mean nuth'in, just a crazy game,

Ribbon scarlet borders pearl,
Washington's profile, in heart-shaped steel,
Hidden wounds, some slowly heal,

Fight the sorrow, rinse the stain,
Brothers, sisters, take the pain,
You now know we share a part
Of life's great order of the Purple Heart

I propose a medal, heart shaped the same,
But broken diagonally, we each can claim,
.....Perhaps the only medal,
Worn on the inside.

Dan "Duster" Heath

1970 FIREBASE MARY ANN 1971

I'm the son of James Baldwin, the Americal Commander in 1970 and 1971.

I'm doing some research on my father's period with the Americal, particularly the wholesale 'purge' following the FIREBASE MARY ANN incident in March of 1971.

I'm having difficulty reaching some of the parties involved. If any one knew my father during that period of time I would be most grateful if the would contact me.

Tel [REDACTED] Timothy B. Baldwin
[REDACTED] Geneva, IL 60134

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

OPERATION AMERICAN VETERANS

Just as America has mobilized in times of crisis to face aggression in all area of the world, we can now unify to defeat the problems facing the men and women of our country who answered the call of our nation to serve in uniform. To do this, Michael Burnes shall be walking across America from the Peace Memorial in San Diego to the Vietnam Memorial in Washington. He leaves San Diego on Memorial Day May 27, 1991 and arrive in Washington on Veterans Day, November 11 1991. This operation will bring to the public a deeper awareness of the difficulties encountered by the American veteran, and the means by which to develop direct support to conquer these issues: homelessness, disabilities, POW-MIA, PTSD, incarceration, etc.. Operation American Veterans will also inform and educate the American public on the far reaching impact of these issues on our entire society. What is needed now to make this a successful event are donations, sponsorships, and endorsements from both the public and private sectors. Any and all funds generated for this event above the cost of the event itself, will be used to fill specific needs of those veterans service agencies directly involved in addressing and solving these veterans issues.

BIOGRAPHY

Michael D. Burnes
38 years old, 12 year multi service vet
Combat medic Americal Division (life member ADVA)
Army 8-69' thru 2-72' Air Force 7-72' thru 7-75'
Navy 3-80' thru 1-86' attached USMC 5-85' thru 1-86'
Since 1987, experience as head of the Outreach-Intake Department of the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Project, Prison Outreach with incarcerated veterans, IV-C Facilitator assisting in the training and employment placing of veterans.

Endorsed by the VVSD (Vietnam Veterans of San Diego)
Private non-profit tax exempt status pending
Make contribution to:

OPERATION AMERICAN VETERANS

[REDACTED]
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

Editors note: Mike sent us a schedule showing the exact path of his walk and what towns he will be resting at. It's way too long for the newsletter, but anyone who would like a copy, contact your Vietnam Editor.

1/14 ARTY 198 LIB 1967 -1968

There will be a book coming out in September or October of this year, composed of the personal accounts of '68 veterans, telling where they were before, during, and after the war.

Gary D. Gullickson of Byron, MN collected the materiel in the chapters and David Anderson of Ritz Publishing, Ritzville, WA will publish it.

Any and all profit that is made on the book will go toward helping other vets. I am also signing over the rights to my share.

More info later.

Al Fuchs

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

196th LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE
LOCATE-A-BROTHER REUNION
IN LAS VEGAS FOR 3/21 AND 4/31 INFANTRY

I am very pleased to announce an event most of us have been anxiously awaiting since Vietnam. In conjunction with the 4/31 Polar Bears, we of the 3/21 Gimlets (Vietnam) are holding the first 3/21 reunion in the "adult disneyland" called Las Vegas! Believe it or not, a reunion out west. Our limited number block of rooms are reserved at the Imperial Palace Hotel for September 5-7, 1991. One LOW flat room price of \$45 a night on "The Strip". Your room reservations are made directly by you calling the Imperial Palace's toll free number and asking for Miss Blue at 1-800-634-6441. Ask for the 196th LIB Locate-A-Brother reunion block of rooms. Make reservations now so you'll be relatively close to everyone and the the Imperial Palace has only guaranteed us a certain number of rooms at this price! One of the reasons I have chosen Thursday, Friday, and Saturday for our reunion is because of the many special "Gambling Junkets" offered by so many airlines on the east coast on those days of the week. Check it out.

Send below info with a \$10 donation to help cover the costs of snacks, etc. at our Gimlet-Polar Bear HQ reception room; appropriately called the Dynasty Room at the Imperial Palace. By the way, this is where you should come immediately after check-in at the hotel for additional info on unit get-togethers etc. I am available by phone at 503-535-7104. See you in Las Vegas!

Tony May
B Co 3/21 196th LIB 1968

Mail to Locate-A-Brother
[REDACTED]
Phoenix, OR 97535

Name & Unit:..... Number attending.....
Arrival date.....Departure date.....
Interested in info on: Sat. Banquet/Program under \$20 per person.....Fri. Nite Show..... Car Caravan.
Family Activities....Your ideas/suggestions for activities.....

23 MED BN. WHERE'S MY PARADE 23 MED BN.

I'm an Vietnam Vet who's been wondering when will all the hoopla over our country's recent victory, in the Gulf, end.

I'm not meaning to deny today's returning vets their just due. god knows that, for what they had to endure, before and after the fighting, they deserve all the praise they are getting. But it does seem that this country, in it's efforts not to do to them what they did to us Vietnam vets, (and perhaps that is why they are going all out), have gotten a bit carried away with it all.

It is true that in the recent past, more efforts have been made to understand the Vietnam vet and the Vietnam War. More people are coming to realize that we too were just doing our duty and following the policies of our leaders at that time, and I'm truly grateful for those efforts. It is also true, at least in my mind, that it's too late for my parade. But if this country was really interested in giving me and 3 1/2 million other Vietnam era vets our parade, it could be more than a symbolic walk down Main street.

CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

WHERE IS MY PARADE (Continues)

The parade that I'm thinking of would be for our leaders to get off their collective butts and re-establish diplomatic relations with the Vietnam government and finally bring our POW's home, and also get a final accounting of our MIA's. By eating a little humble-pie and wiping the egg off their political faces, our leaders could accomplish this goal. Is it too much to ask? Hell, if this country could survive the Watergate scandal, the Iran embassy fiasco, the Iran-Contra affair, and even Nixon's resignation, it surely could withstand eating some crow to bring our men home. This great country of ours has done this before, leaving our soldiers behind. In Korea for instance. It's not the vets fault that they didn't win the wars as planned. So why keep punishing us? We were just doing our duty as ordered, to the best of our ability and training, I might add. It's only right that the politicians do what's right, to the best of their moral consciousness, if they have any left.

I may be true that a lot of old wounds will be reopened for the surviving families if our men were to come home now. But it would also heal a lot of those wounds as well. I firmly believe that everyone concerned would sleep easier afterwards, knowing what the true status of the POW's and MIA's really is. The Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC helped put to rest a lot of ghosts for everyone that knew a vet over in Nam. Lets put to rest the remainder of this countries ghosts and do the right thing. GIVE US OUR PARADE!

David C. Hart
Medic 1968-69 RVN

Co. D 2/1 Infantry

I am applying for membership in your association. My sponsor is Capt. Charles T. Sizemore of Dayton, Ky. I am from the original 196th Brigade which trained at Ft. Devens, Mass. in 1965-1966. I am also enclosing a photograph of the anti tank pl. from Delta Company., 2nd Battalion 1st Infantry. If anyone in your organization was a member of this platoon or from Delta Company it would be nice to see or hear from them again. I also must note that I actually was transferred while in Vietnam before the 196th joined the Americal Division. I was transferred to the 4th Division in March of 1967 as were some of the men in the photo both before and after me to various selected units. One of the unique differences about the 196th was we trained together for 9 months while in the states and got to know members of our own companies as well as members from other units within the Brigade.

I'm not sure if I'm eligible for membership but I am sending in a membership application, the initial dues fee and the photo in hopes of maybe getting in touch with someone from the old unit.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Daniel L. Sexton
Cincinnati, Ohio
45245-2756

39 MILITARY POLICE

Why should an eligible veteran belong to the ADVA? Perhaps they ought to be told: "Because WE are FAMILY! - WE each served in one of the most famous units in the United States Army. THE AMERICAL DIVISION.

We ALL have memories of friends that will live forever in our hearts and in our thoughts of the times we shared under battle conditions, marched in hot steamy jungles, walked knee deep in mud, water and rice paddies, ate cold beans from a can, or a fruit bar in a wrapper, shared a beer, a cigarette, or a letter from home, with a comrade we felt close to, who was experiencing the same hardships we were, while our thoughts of family, loved ones, and home - drifted past our minds, while we ducked bullets, incoming artillery, or just rain drops!

Some of us were grunts, some administrative troops, cooks, mechanics, etc. Some were Officers, some NCO's, most plain troops depending on each other to keep alive. The common denominator was the fact "WE WERE BROTHERS"!

Because of that fact, each of us joined together in a bond of friendship that could never be broken, and in hopes that dreams and memories could be kept alive, tucked carefully in the back of our minds and consciences. Not one of us can ever forget the growing ritual we each faced while under fire for the first time in our lives, wondering if we'd be a statistic on a battle report, or allowed to live for another day or time. It did not matter our color, Black-Brown-Yellow-or-White, we were a team, a family, and comrades sharing tough and hard times in a distant land, and war, to make our country free.

When a friend of hands you a application to join this great association, please don't blow it off. Fill it out, attach your check for \$16 as yearly dues, or a one time payment of \$100-in one payment or divide it into four equal payments to become a Life Member.

Whatever you choose you cannot afford not to belong to the ADVA.

Sincerely,
David Recob

HARD DAYS RIDER

Standing on the river's brink, He sees his reflection lingering upon the water of time.

Through the passing clouds his eyes gaze upon the golden moments of days gone by.

The winds carry the challenging aroma of the sweat forced from his dirt soaked pores due to the never ending battle which takes him to a never ending call forward.

The future holds his rhythmical pulse beat as does the past carry his ordained undefined credentials.

He is the Hard Days Rider

Paul Hughes

WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED YOUR NEWSLETTER
PUT IT IN THE READING ROOM OF
YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

VIETNAM VETERANS CENTER JACKSON, MS 39202

This is let you know what three of our Vietnam Veterans are doing in our state to promote and help veterans.

Robert Ducker, James Talley and Jimmy Shows have started a talk radio show called "Veterans Forum". This was the idea of Talley's three years ago. It seems that with Desert Storm the timing was right. They were given (1) one hour to do their show. This was in November of 1990. The show was so popular that the radio station gave them another hour.

They will discuss all issues concerning veterans. Shows and ducker were in the 1 Cav. Div. Jim Talley was in the AMERICAL DIVISION.

This is one example of what Vietnam Veterans can do to help their brother veterans. They do not get paid to do this show.

If any of your members are coming through Jackson, Mississippi be sure and tune into program.

If you are interested in started such a radio program in your area contact these guys and they will help you.

Thank you,
CLINT

71 AVIATION COMPANY 16 AVIATION GROUP

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Luis Hernandez. I live in San Antonio, TX. I work as a civilian employee for the Department of the Air Force. I'm also a member of the Texas Army National Guard and a veteran of the Vietnam War 1970-1971.

I was a crew chief on a UH-1H Helicopter attached to the 71st Aviation Company, 16th Aviation Group (combat), 23rd Infantry Division.

My reason for writing to you is that I'm trying to claim a Distinguished Flying Cross that was awarded to me, but instead was given to another person. It's been 20 years and my recollection of names has been erased from my memory. I am in need of the names and addresses of members of the above named unit.

If any one remembers me would they be so kind as to contact me as I am need of collaborating statements to receive the medal to which I am entitled.

Thank you,
Luis Hernandez

Phone [REDACTED] San Antonio, TX 78227

THE AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION
MAKES A GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE
AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AND THE
AMERICAN HEART FUND, EACH YEAR,
IN MEMORY OF OUR DEPARTED COMRADES.

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

VIETNAM-STYLE
By SFC Larry Babbitts

What's it all about? Last week this reporter found out what the war's all about. The big issue in Viet-nam's bush-country isn't imperialism, Asian economics, or the question of relocation of the masses.

The big issue here in the Valley of the Happiness River is the welfare of a small montagnard boy. Just before noon one day, a montagnard woman, aged beyond he 30 years, appeared at the gate of the Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) Camp at Minh Long. She asked to see "bas-si"-the doctor.

Slung over her shoulder according to the fashion of the Hre tribe was an emaciated looking, small boy, less than two years old.

The woman was led to the dispensary by one of the local tribesmen serving the CIDG's here and introduced to the "bas-si", SP4 Clifford H. Brenner (Harlington, TX) the Special Forces A-Team medic.

Brenner, a graduate of the Army's 48-week course at Fort Sam Houston, TX, speaks none of the montagnard dialect, and the woman could speak no English. In fact, her knowledge of Vietnamese was extremely limited, for like most montagnards she had never learned the language of the Viets.

To make her needs understood, she unwrapped the child from the dirty black-cloth sling and pointed to the boy's feet. More than a dozen sores were spread over the area from the ankles to the toes.

She explained, using many hand signs and broken Vietnamese, that when the boy complained of pain, "she took all of the known Hre measures". She had taken him to the village shaman, or witch doctor, who advised the sacrifice of a chicken whose blood would be spread on a pole in front of her house and the feathers burnt.

When this failed to cure the boy, the illiterate, comparatively primitive woman, carried her child more than nine kilometers through bush country and dense jungle to find a "Hoa Ky" (American) medic to get aid for her son.

This woman, a primitive from another century, knew what the local Viet Cong cadre might do when they found out where she went for help.

Now, here was a woman whose husband, father, brothers, or maybe even herself, had fought against the "Hoa Ky" soldiers in the hills. But she was also a mother. A mother who despite the pettiness of local politics and Picayune ethnic prejudices, brought her child to a small way station in the jungle--thinking first of her son's health and his future.

And that's what war is all about.

Ed Note: This article was written by Larry Babbitts, a staff writer, and appeared in the 'Southern Cross', Chu Lai, Vietnam. Dateline--January 19, 1969.

PLEASE CHECK THE ADDRESS LABEL CAREFULLY.
IF THERE IS ANYTHING INCORRECT IN THE SPELLING,
OR THE ADDRESS PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY!

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

125 QUARTERMASTER

I am writing to let you know of the death of my beloved husband, Patrick J. Jennings. He died of Renal Failure on June 15, 1991, at the Winchester Hospital in Winchester, Mass.

He was in the 125th Quartermaster Company of the Americal Division. He served in Guadalcanal and in the Northern Solomon Islands.

May I request a copy of the Americal Newsletter listing his name under "Taps"? I shall treasure this final copy as he treasured every issue he received.

Sincerely,
Katherine A. Jennings

Ed note: You will remain on our mailing list as long as you desire.

COMPANY D 182 INFANTRY

I am writing to inform you of my husbands death on May 21, 1991. He fought a good fight for over three years but cancer finally overtook him.

He was a member of D company, 182 Infantry and was immensely proud of his outfit, his comrades, and especially proud of the Americal Division. He served from March 1941 to March 1946.

Several weeks before his death he asked me to send a check for the Guadalcanal Memorial which I have enclosed. He so very much wanted to make one more trip to the Museum, but it was not to be.

I hope that you will send me one or two of the next Newsletter--I also enjoyed them.

Most sincerely,
Norma D. Sellers

Ed note: You will most certainly remain on our mailing list.

132 INFANTRY

This is to advise you that my husband, William, passed away on May 26, 1991 at the Lakeside Veterans Hospital in Chicago, IL.

His death was caused by heart failure and renal failure complications.

He served with the 132 Infantry. He was very proud to be a member of the Americal Division Veterans Association.

Sincerely,
Josephine Armandi

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

HAVE YOU CALLED THAT OLD BUDDY YET?
NOW IS THE TIME
TOMORROW MAY BE TOO LATE!

Co. L 182 Infantry

I am looking for information, specific details, regarding the death of my uncle, Francis Boutin, who served in Company L 182 Infantry I believe he was a private. The only information the family has, is that he was killed on Bougainville by a Japanese sniper. He was originally buried on Bougainville, then moved to a cemetery on Long Island.

After his death there were two letters written, one by the chaplain and one by a friend which conflicted with each other.

Francis was like my older brother and it has always bothered me not to know the real details of his death. Any help that you can provide would be very much appreciated. Thank you.

Charles H. Deacon
[REDACTED]
Sandwich, MA 02563

Any Company L men who have any detail about this former comrade, contact the above person.

721 ORDNANCE

You are welcome to keep the picture of "Pistol Pete" and its tractor. (Newsletter Sep-Oct 90).

I vividly recall going to this small clearing in the jungle, to recover these two items. There were about six dead Japs close by. One outstretched arm had a wristwatch on it. I took the watch, wiped it off, wound it, and wore it through Fiji. Bougainville and Leyte were I gave it to a young lady before shipping out for the U.S.A. in March of 1945.

I thoroughly enjoy reading every word in the AMERICAL NEWSLETTER and the Guadalcanal Campaign Veterans "Echoes".

I hope to go back to Guadalcanal for the 50th anniversary. I might also like to visit Fiji again.

I often relive my stint in the U. S. Army from 3/10/41 to 5/27/47. Camp Lee, Virginia, Camp Blanding, Florida, Task Force 6814, Melbourne, Australia, New Caledonia, Guadalcanal, Bougainville, and Leyte. An experience not easily forgotten.

Leo Braun

Ed Note: Received a note from Akto Tani recently. He was the officer in charge of "Pistol Pete". He is looking forward to meeting us on Guadalcanal next year.

247 FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

Speaking as one of the original members of the Americal and one of the many at our fiftieth anniversary reunion on Cape Cod, I could not help in thinking, as I looked around the room where we all dined with our mates, the beauty of the women, the serenity in their closeness, the smiling faces--truly a once in a lifetime event--old buddies and their mates--meeting once more before the call to quarters.

George LLOYD

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

SECOND ANNUAL REUNION

121 MEDICAL BATTALION
101 MEDICAL REGIMENT

FINAL NOTICE:

To make your reservation for the Reunion if you have not already done so. The reservations have been very good so far, with some members attending for the first time. Al Cotta, Calif., Bill Marshall, Kansas, plus John Vanderbeck, NY and Cliff Rogers, MA.

Bob Beschle and his wife Marilyn who attended last year, reports they will be on a six month motor tour of Alaska, but will try to attend on their return.

So dust off that envelope with the information you received and mail your reservation to the:

Sheraton Wayfarer Inn
[REDACTED]
Bedford, NH 03102
Tel. [REDACTED]

If you need any additional info please free to contact either:

Bill Coronella
[REDACTED]
Somerville, MA 02144
Tel. [REDACTED]

Bill Dunphy
[REDACTED]
W. Roxbury, MA 02132
Tel. [REDACTED]

We would like to thank all those members who sent in their reservations early as it was a great help in planning the reunion. THANK YOU AGAIN!

RETURN TO GUADALCANAL

The basic tour has been planned for a return to the Pacific.

A tour is leaving Los Angeles on August 1, 1992 and will return on August 10, 1992. This tour will include a stop on Fiji and a stay on Guadalcanal that will include the dedication ceremonies for the Guadalcanal Memorial, a boat tour of Gavutu and Tulagi.

The fare for this tour, from Los Angeles, is \$2650 per person.

We are now working on a triangle fare from Fiji to New Caledonia, New Hebrides or one other island, and return to Fiji. This of course will be added to the above fare.

I will have brochures on the Guadalcanal tour soon and will mail a copy to all persons that have expressed interest. If you desire a brochure please write to Jim Buckle or call 617-245-8038.

A complete tour will be arranged by the next Newsletter and all interested parties will receive a brochure as soon as I receive them.

MORE TO FOLLOW

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

Julie and I enjoyed the Massachusetts reunion very much. I know that it takes an awful lot of work to put one together, having done one for the ADVA at Carlisle in 1988. Basically I think that everyone expects the committee to do a good job. It is expected of us so that we all can have a good time.

However, I particularly want to thank the group of ladies and men from the local American Legion Post #188, (Sandwich, MA) that hosted our group for lunch on Saturday June 8th between tours of the Heritage Plantation and the Sandwich Glass Museum. The bus-loads of our members were very thirsty and hungry that hot day. They all spoke very highly at the very efficient way the volunteers took care of all our needs in an exemplary way. Please let them know how much we appreciate their labor of love.

Pete Messina

Ed Note: Pete, I will forward you note to Dick Gallant, an Americal member, he made the arrangements for us to use their facilities.



Senior Vice Commander Pete J. Messina
and Mrs. Messina at the Convention



National Finance Officer Joe Chin
and Mrs. Chin at the Convention

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

COMPANY M 182 INFANTRY

Let me begin by thanking the Committee in charge of the Convention, and the officers of the Americal Veterans Association, for a very rewarding and well-run reunion of the old and new Americal veterans. It was worth the trip across the country, which was made quite pleasant by the people of Delta Air Line.

To see my old friends, particularly the ever-beautiful Louise McGoldrick, who I remember as the girl bride in the white wedding gown as the trained pulled out, the irrepressible bubbling-over Joe Chin, the gray-haired but young Greg Karahalas, the slightly heavier but still handsome Harvey Campbell (who chased babes with me at Old Silver Beach), and the still quietly reserved don Pray, brought back so many memories, that for three days I was young again. The Association could bottle these affairs and make a fortune.

Now that I have taken care of my old friends, I can go on to praise the selection of the Cape Cod Plaza as the site of the reunion. The rooms and service were very good; and I think the food was excellent. I particularly appreciated the Saturday 4:10 PM cloudburst, which was arranged solely for the benefit of the drought-ridden California group. I don't know whether San Antonio can beat the Cape Cod crew; but we will have to wait and see.

Now I have a favor to ask. When Joe and Barbara drove me up to Logan Airport, we stopped off in Everett so that I could visit with John White, our old supply and first sergeant. It was really the high point of my trip. John is 90, and a bit shaky, but still the same Irishman who gave me the name "Private Izzy Murphy", the first time he tried on my helmet. The "Murphy" part stuck with me for forty years of my combined military service. John went with me to Logan and when we parted I gave him my reunion cap, to remember me by.-- Would you be kind enough to send me a cap and bill me the cost?

I would like to have the cap to wear, with pride, on my weekly visits to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot and the Mirimar Naval Air base.

Once again, thanks for a grand time, and new memories. They should last until San Antone.

Sam Goldstein

Ed Note: Gave you letter to Bernie Chase and he will send you another hat. Glad you enjoyed yourself--that's what it is all about!

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GUADALCANAL MEMORIAL

Anthony Albini
Donald Pray
William W. Goldrick
Al Adams Family
C Battery 221 Field Artillery
182 Infantry Association
Edward J. Munroe

NEW CALEDONIA MUSEUM

Col. Charles J. Tinkham

USS WOODFORD AKA 86

The VFW magazine, April edition lists your reunion notice. I am not a member of your association but our paths crossed many time years ago. I served aboard the USS WOODFORD AKA 86.

From the ships history I cite the following:

25 Aug 1945. At 0558 underway from anchorage to go alongside Pier #1, Cebu City, Cebu, and moored portside to north side Pier #1 at 0653. At 1135 commenced loading combat cargo of the Americal Division.

27 Aug At 1325 completed combat loading having received 2,209 tons aboard. Took on board 8 Army LCM'S.

30 Aug Cebu Harbor, Cebu. At 1420 embarked a total of 8 Officers and 138 Men of the Americal Division for transportation.

1 Sept At 0945 took departure of Cebu enroute SAGAMI WAN HONSHU.

8 Sept At 1231 moored starboard side Pier "A" YOKOHAMA, HONSHU. At 1319 commenced unloading Americal Division.

9 Sept at 2100 completed unloading.

10 Sept At 0655 disembarked all personnel of the Americal Division.

I just thought you might be interested in some of the history of your outfit.

We of the WOODFORD will be having our sixth annual reunion in Appleton, Wisconsin this September.

Hope you have another successful reunion.

Sincerely,
Fred J. Weaver Jr.
WOODFORD Historian

Hey you guys--anybody remember the USS WOODFORD?



CONVENTION COMMITTEE WOMEN

Lorraine Murnaghan

Pat McLaughlin

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

F COMPANY 182 INFANTRY

CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

On April 30, 1991 members of Co F 182 Infantry celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a dinner at the Cottage Crest restaurant in Waltham, MA.

Seventy three Co. F veterans of world War II and their guests attended, joined by a group of F Co veterans of the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

Past Commander of the Americal Division Veterans Association, James Buckle and his wife Frances were present. Past National Commander Bernard Chase and Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Murnaghan also attended.

Each person received th Co F coffee mug as a memento of this special occasion. The mug consists of a two sided inscription of Co F 182 Infantry and the Americal Shield. The mug is an off white with the lettering and the Americal shield in blue.

The welcoming address was given by John LeVert who reminisced about F Co's January 26, 1941 march from the Waltham Armory to the Waltham Railroad Station for a ride to Camp Edwards for "only a year".

The traditional minute of silent prayer was given for Jim Russo, Joe "Snuffy" Geary, Alfred "Snooky" O'Neill, Joe McDonald and Sam DeMarco of E Co. These deaths occurred since the last years May 20, 1990 Reunion Dinner.

The before dinner prayer was given by Buddy Lorenz.

The after dinner Master of Ceremonies, Joe Papa, introduced the members of the committee who consisted of, William Vinci, Joe Siano, Paul Miele, Buddy Lorenz, hack Cohen Frank LaValle, Jack McIsaac. John LeVert and Joe Papa were Co-Chairman of the reunion. All F Co men and their guests were individually introduced. Special mention was made of attending guest Allan Pierce, a veteran of World War I.

Past Commander Bernard Chase, of the ADVA spoke on the Americal Convention, the 50th anniversary, being held on Cape cod on June 6-9, 1991.

The main speaker of the evening, Colonel Salvatore Vinciullo, was introduced by Joe Papa. The Colonel paid homage to F Co's former Commanding Officer, Captain John J. Mullin, who passed away in October of 1989.

Colonel Vinciullo summarized Co F's experiences from Camp Edwards through the Solomon Islands, the Philippines, and finally its victorious days in Japan. The Colonel was one of the few men that made it all the way from Camp Edwards to Japan.

The rest of the evening was spent getting re-acquainted with Co F men and their wives and in some cases their children.

At the end of the evening, as good byes were being said, everyone expressed the same sentiment-with the help of god we will be back next year. AMEN

Joe Papa

HDQ. CO. 1 BN ANTI-TANK PLATOON 182 INFANTRY

This photograph was taken on Bougainville in 1944. Perhaps some of the guys, if they are in the ADVA, can identify themselves.

I can recall most of the front row--secont in is McKinley, Lasheff, me Ed Loeb, and Tex? In the rear, left to right is Niemann Sgt. Kuster--Hoffman far right.

The other names I can't recall. Hope someone out there can help me out.

Ed Loeb





POSTING THE COLORS
NATIONAL CONVENTION 1991

THE FEATURE STORY IN THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE ABOUT THE 26TH SIGNAL COMPANY IN WORLD WAR II. IT IS A GREAT STORY WRITTEN BY HARRY T. MILLER. SOON TO FOLLOW WILL BE STORIES BY RUSS MILES AND LARRY HENRY.

WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED READING YOUR AMERICAL NEWSLETTER GIVE IT TO A V. A. HOSPITAL



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JULY - AUGUST 1991

Mr. Gary L. Noller P.L.
[REDACTED]
La Grange, IL 60525

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)