

★ GUADALCANAL

★ NORTHERN SOLOMONS

★ LEYTE

★ SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

★ VIETNAM



FOUNDED 1945

MAY - JUNE 1988

AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

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

Editor-in-Chief; Jim Buckle
Vietnam Editor; Ron Ward

Published Bi-Monthly

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



GENERAL ARTHUR E. BROWN JR.

1987 NATIONAL OFFICERS 1987

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[REDACTED]
So. Yarmouth, MA 02664

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER
Robert Thornton
[REDACTED]
Melrose, MA 02176

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER
Edmund Jaga-Spanian
[REDACTED]
Belmont, MA 02178-1032

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AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
James C. Buckle
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Wakefield, MA 01880

VIETNAM EDITOR
Ronald L. Ward
[REDACTED]
St. Louis, MO 63123

MONTHLY A.D.V.A. MEETING

May 21, 1988
Armed Forces Day
Americal Museum
Fort Devens, MA
10:00 A.M.

June 9, 10, 11, 12, 1988
National Convention
Carlisle, PA

AMERICAL FAMILY DAY
July 23, 1988
10:00 A.M. til ???
Americal Museum
Fort Devens, MA
(More info inside)

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?
CHECK THAT CARD NOW!

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

We have just completed our 43rd Dinner - Dance and Ad - Book. I want to thank Bernie Carroll and Barbara Callahan for all their hard work running the Dinner - Dance. I would also like to thank all attended or sent in Ads for the book.

On May 29, 1988 at 2:00 p.m., Memorial Day Services will be held at the Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne, Massachusetts. The Americal's Colors will participate in the short parade before the ceremony. If you live in Eastern Massachusetts to attend this ceremony in honor of our departed comrades.

Bernard Chase
National Commander

AMERICAL MUSEUM

A recent property check at the Museum shows that some of the Japanese rifles that we have for display are on loan from the owners. We are requesting that anyone having a rifle on loan to the Museum notify the director, within 60 days, if they desire to have their rifle returned or if they want to donate the rifle to the Museum. Please notify the Museum Director, Ken Turner, at his home, [REDACTED] Wakefield, MA 01880 or call [REDACTED].

There are openings for a few more Curators at the Museum. This is a good opportunity to view the Museum, if you have not already done so, and spend some time looking over our exhibits. All that is required is that you spend a six hour day there every four months. This is a good opportunity to meet new friends and renew old acquaintances. We have several Mr. and Mrs. teams among our Curators.

The Museums is also looking for donations of floor lamps for use in the Library.

If you have any questions about being a curator or any other questions regarding the Museum please contact;

Ken Turner
[REDACTED]
Wakefield, MA 01880

182 INFANTRY

It is with deep regret that I inform you of the death of my uncle Albert V. Boland Sr. He died in his home on Easter Sunday (April 3, 1988) following a brief illness and surgery.

Al served in the 182 Infantry in World War II and was a dedicated member of the ADVA. He was my sponsor into the Association, and I am pleased he saw my name added to the rolls before he passed away.

I believe that Al was a Life Member. So that you will not lose a loyal life member I am enclosing my check for life membership. My dues were paid in advance, and if any refund is due me, please credit any charity you support. Or, use it toward the annual dues for some Vet who would like to renew but doesn't have the funds in his current budget.

Sincerely,
Peter J. Gallagher
196 LIB

TAPS

Albert W. Boland
182 Infantry
Wakefield, MA
April 3, 1988

Thomas H. Gilmore
182 Infantry
Middleboro, MA
April 10, 1988

Thomas H. Wellman
121 Med Bn
Valdese, NC
January 16, 1988

Charles J. Gray
21 Recon
Andover, MA
September 28, 1987

Michael J. McGrail
494 Quartermaster
Westwood, MA
March 25, 1988

John B. Greenhalgh
164 Infantry
Rapid City, SD
February 26, 1988

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

164 INFANTRY

GRANNY REMEMBERED

As most of you know, John "Granny" Greenhalgh died of heart failure a few weeks ago. Granny was given a DAV funeral with full military honors at Black Hills National Cemetery on Friday February 26.

Granny's many contributions to Chapter 3 are well known, he was Golden Rodent of Trench Rat Dugout 369, a member of the Chapters Executive Committee, and Color Guard and Firing Squad Officer at the time of his death. Perhaps he will be best remembered for his role as Santa Claus at three of the last four Chapter Christmas Parties, at Rushmore Mall, and at many charity and hospital Christmas events. Granny truly loved playing Santa, his heart and soul were in it and kids of all ages KNEW it.

What is less known of Granny is his wartime service - because he didn't talk about it much. In December of 1940, at age nineteen, Granny enlisted in the South Dakota National Guard and he served in the AMERICAL DIVISION from the time it was organized until his discharge in 1945. During his service he

was involved in many memorable battles of the Pacific "Island hopping campaigns" including Guadalcanal, Bougainville in the Solomon Islands and the Philippines. On Bougainville he suffered through a bad bout with malaria. Among his awards and decorations were the Combat Infantry's Badge (his most cherished), the Bronze Star, Philippine Liberation Ribbon and World War II Victory Ribbon.

John "Granny" Greenhalgh did his part for his nation and for his fellow veterans and more. Granny died at 66. Gone but not forgotten

(Sent in by Charles Kilmer)

1644293854

164 INFANTRY

Joseph T. Alleckson, a retired transportation manager in the wholesale paper industry, passed away at his home in Long Beach, CA on February 22, 1988. He was 67 years old.

He had lived in Long Beach since 1945 and he retired in 1975.

Alleckson was a native of Williston ND. In World War II he left Williston with 164 Infantry, North Dakota National Guard, when it was Federalized. The 164 Infantry became part of the Americal Division in the South Pacific.

He was a Life Member of the George Wallace White. VFW Post #1746, a member of Amvets Post #48, a member of Paramount Elks Lodge 1804, and he was also a Life Member of the Americal Division Veterans Association.

Alleckson is survived by his wife Audrey, a sister Stella and a number of nephews and nieces.

(The above notice sent in by Vernon Pierce.)

101 QUARTERMASTER

A funeral mass with Military honors was said on February 23rd for Francis J. Connelly, a life member of the Americal Division Veterans Association, who died at 80 after a period of failing health. His military career began in 1928, when he enlisted in the horse-drawn artillery, 101st Ammunition Train, 26 Div, MNG. In 1941 he was inducted into federal service and he commanded the maintenance troops of Task Force 6814. He served as an ordnance officer with the Americal Division and with other ordnance units in the South Pacific. While in New Guinea, he received a commendation from the Commander of the Sixth Army after leading the unit that established the all-time record for assembling combat vehicles in that theatre. Returning to the U.S. in 1945, he served as assistant director of maintenance, First Service Command, and commanding officer of the Boston Ordnance Shop until his discharge in 1946 with the rank of Major. On retirement he was awarded the rank of Lt. Col. He resumed his position with the Military Department, and upon finishing first in a civil service examination, he was promoted to Superintendent of Armories. Responsible for much of the reorganization of National Guard maintenance shops throughout the Commonwealth. He received a commendation from the then adjutant general of Massachusetts. He retired in 1978, having reached the mandatory retirement of 70, after a career with the MNG that spanned 50 years.

Mr. father rarely spoke of his service, and never of his accomplishments. Once in a while he would mention Australia, New Guinea, New Caledonia, or Woodlark Island. He maintained friendship and correspondence with Rev. Frederic Gehring, the "Padre of Guadalcanal," and was of course, aware of the passing of so many of his generation and with them the memory bank of that war in those far-away jungles. He read with interest every issue of the "Americal Newsletter", and saved many issues for review and doubtless, remembrance.

Sincerely,
Rose L. Connelly

Ed Note: It was stated in the last issue of the Newsletter that Col. Connelly passed away on February 2, 1988 - the date should be February 19. My apologies.

NEW MEMBERS

Steven L. Hanken
Cedar Rapids, IA
335 Trans Co
#Michael L. Matajlike

*Frank J. Przybojerski
Jersey City, NJ
523 Signal
#Roland Castronova

Harry D. Van der Horn
Delta, OH
244 CA
#Dave Rossi

Alfred A. Brown
Hamilton, OH
164 Infantry
#Robert N. Thornton

*Michael P. Brown
Lawrenceburg, IN
198 LIB
#Ron Ward

*Damon A. Buzzeghin
Chester, MA
11 LIB
#Thomas McGreevy

*Joseph A. Buzzed
Stamford, CT
11 LIB
#R. W. Horlein

*Dwight L. Fanshaw
Concord, NC
11 LIB
#Kenneth H. Lewis

John E. Hagert
Canton, MA
221 FA
#Thomas Flaherty

Richard P. Hintz
Arkdale, WI
132 Infantry
#Bernie Chase

Raymond H. Hunter
Saginaw, MI
132 Infantry
#Herbert L. Murphy

Russell R. Blake
Sarasota, FL
182 Infantry
#Arthur Wood

*Donald M. Feliciano
Redding, CA
198 LIB
#Roland Castronova

*William D. Highland
Mattoon, IL
198 LIB
#Jim Highland

*Edmund A. Krekorian
Aurora, CO
23 Med Bn
#Peter J. Messina

Julius Lail
Gastonia, NC
164 Infantry
#Bernie Chase

*Paul Letsch
Avenel, NJ
198 LIB
#Wayne Yarbrough

*David P. Martinez
Fort Hood, TX
196 LIB
#Self

*Russell T. May Jr.
Louisville, KY
23 Med Bn
#Charles Park

*Raymond A. McCranie
Hawthorne, FL
131 Combat Eng
#Bernie Chase

*John L. Norman
Escanaba, MI
1 CAV-3/16 Arty
#Ron Ward

*Gary J. Plaisance
Westwego, LA
11 LIB
#Ken Lewis

*Kirk F. Shimek
Herperia, CA
71 Aslt Heli Co
#Roland Castronova

Col. Edmond J. Speitel
Alexandria, VA
182 Infantry
#Peter J. Messina

Lester G. Wichmann
Minneapolis, MN
164 Infantry
#Bernie Chase

Norman F. Woehle
Bellevue, NE
164 Infantry
#Bernie Chase

*James M. Blaylock
Sparta, TN
82 FA
#Roland Castronova

*Michael P. Trimble
Sal Si Puedes, CA
196 LIB
#Peter J. Messina

Lyle P. Aljets
Everett, WA
164 Infantry
#Self

William D. Baggett
Deltona, FL
246 FA
#Peter J. Messina

NEW MEMBERS

Leo L. Bauer
Redding, CA
721 Ord
#Bernie Chase

Justus V. Baum Jr.
Muncy, PA
21 Recon
#Bernie Chase

*Michael F. Browning
Brunswick, GA
11 LIB
#William L. Dunphy

Joe D. Feeler
Albuquerque, NM
164 Infantry
#Self

*Robert V. Gibbs
Rumson, NJ
196 LIB
#Tony May - Locate-a-Brother

Col. James L. Filler
Clifton, NJ
182 Infantry
#Peter J. Messina

James A. Rains
Orchard Park, NY
164 Infantry
#Bernie Chase

SICK CALL

The following men are a bit under the weather and would appreciate a card from their friends;

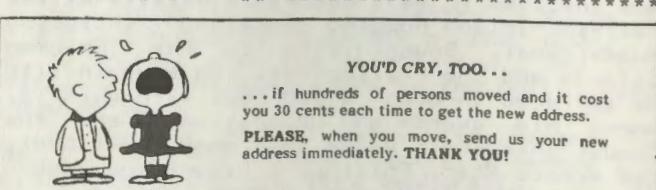
Charles W. LeDuc
North Reading, MA
01864

Charlie Rossetti
Daniels Nursing Home
Reading, MA 01867

Michael Doyle
Haverhill, MA
10830

If you know of the death of a comrade or a comrade that is ill please notify the Adjutant as soon as possible;

Mr. William L. Dunphy
West Roxbury, MA
02132



Send to:
Mr. William L. Dunphy
247 Willow Street
02132

CHAPTER NEWS

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

REGIONAL COMMANDER: Robert T. Hock
1203 N 5th Street, Reading, PA, 19601
Tel # [REDACTED]

The chapter is busy finalizing its plans for the National Reunion in Carlisle, PA June 9, 10, 11, 12, 1988. Peter Messina reports that registrations and reservations at the Motel are coming in good. Don't be left out in the cold. Get your reservations in now!

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

COMMANDER: Carlo A. Pola
[REDACTED] Sandwich, MA, 02563
Tel # [REDACTED]

At the Cape Cod Chapter meeting in May, elections were held for Chapter Officers. Hugh J. Murnaghan was elected Commander. Edwin A. Kuja was elected Senior Vice Commander. Carlo A. Pola was elected Finance Officer. Arthur L. Chapman was elected Sergeant at Arms.

The next meeting will be held September 12, 1988. Many members of the Chapter plan to attend the Reunion June 9-12, at Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

SOUTH EAST CHAPTER
AL, FL, GA, NC, SC, TN

REGIONAL COMMANDER: Ed A. Heartquist
200 Royal Palm Drive, Tarpon Springs, Florida, 33589
Tel # [REDACTED]

MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR

Arthur Wood has informed headquarters that the South East Chapter has made arrangements at the Holiday Inn, Orlando, Florida for the 1989 National Convention to be hosted by the South East Chapter. The Dates will be;

JUNE 1, 2, 3, 4, 1989

Watch future Newsletters as the final details are made.

CENTRAL MID WEST CHAPTER
IA, KS, MO, NE

CONTACTS: Ron L. Ward
[REDACTED] St. Louis, Mo, 03123
Tel # [REDACTED]

Charles "Chuck" P. King
[REDACTED] Kansas City, MO., 64119
Tel # [REDACTED]

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

CONTACT: Charles T. Manchester of [REDACTED], Ft Worth, Texas, 76116 wrote to Headquarters that he was interested in starting a Chapter in his area. Please contact Charlie if you are interested. I have forwarded to Charlie the information required to request a Charter.

CHAPTER NEWS (cont.)

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

REGIONAL COMMANDER: Lloyd J. Morrell
47 Collins Drive, Pleasant Hill, CA., 94523
Tel # [REDACTED]

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

COMMANDER: Vacant

Regional Commander Lloyd Morrell reports that he has a member who might take on the task in Southern California in the near future.

ATTENTION ATTENTION

National Commander Bernie Chase is now the Chapter Coordinator and all news of the Chapters should be sent to him at his home address;

Mr. Bernard Chase
[REDACTED]
South Yarmouth, MA
02664

All Chapter Commanders are asked to make a report to him in time to meet the deadline for the Newsletter.

Please make a report on all Chapter activities and give the names of your committee men and also the names of any new members.

I will see that you get the names of all new members that sign up in the ADVA and are from your Chapter area.

Please send in a report every month even though it may be a negative report. I will know then that we are still in touch.

Thanks.
Bernie

PLEASE NOTE

We would again remind all members to notify the Adjutant as soon as possible when you change your address. Postal rates have again gone up and at present it cost .30 every time a Newsletter is returned to us.

If you notify us of your change of address and a letter is returned we will re-mail it to you. If you do not notify us your Newsletter will not be re-mailed and you will not receive one until the next issue.

NOTIFY: William L. Dunphy
[REDACTED]
West Roxbury, MA
02132

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?
CHECK THAT CARD NOW!

THE BATTLE FOR HILL 260

BATTERY A 246 FIELD ARTILLERY

Dear Sir;

I read with interest the account of the OP tree on Hill 260 in Bougainville.

My men of Battery A of the 246 FA manned this tree. I commanded Battery A during our campaign on Bougainville.

The O.P. tree was on an outpost, beyond the front lines, that was manned by the 182 Infantry (G Company). They had a platoon on the Hill to guard the tree. I'll never forget the first time I climbed the tree (Banyan) after the engineers had finished it. Being 125 feet tall it gave us excellent observation of the Torokina River and many thousands of yards beyond. We were tied in with Hill 270 (OP7) and Hill 309 (OP6)--Hill 260 was OP 5. The patrols that went out beyond the Torokina River would radio us when they had enemy contact. They would explode a colored smoke grenade on their flanks, which we would spot and by sound they would adjust fire on the enemy positions.

A 500 yard safety factor was always added. (We always appreciated the covering fire the artillery gave us. These patrols always had an artillery forward observer and a radio man with them. Ed note.)

I was up in the tree for five days observing and directing fire until relieved by 2nd Lt. Earl E. Excell and five men from my battery on Friday afternoon. I had seen Jap activity along the Torokina River to our direct front before I left the tree. The Japanese attacked Hill 260 on early Saturday morning. I talked with Lt. Excell, during the attack, before he was killed. The telephone line was cut by fire and that was my last conversation with him.

The Commanding Officer of the 246 FA Bn sent me back up to keep direct fire on the Hill. I remained there for fourteen days--until the 182 Infantry could secure the Hill. I had with me as a radio and telephone operator, Sgt. Leonard (Pappy) Mejia with whom I still correspond. Pappy now lives in Kansas City, KS.

The executive officer of Battery A, 246 FA, was Gilbert Rhodes fired many rounds of 105 shells during Jap control of the Hill. He and I have been close friends since the War. He left Battery A to become CO of Headquarters Battery. The Japs did not abandon Hill 260 but were driven off by artillery and Infantry mortar and rifle fire--also air bombing. I went back after the Hill was secured, with a Catholic Chaplain, to find my men at the base of the tree. It was truly a mess. I admired the Chaplain who went with me. I still have a panoramic photo view of the entire area in front of Hill 260. It covers from Mount Bagana (active volcano) on the left across the Torokina River to the ocean on the right. I feel fortunate to have it and I would like to give it to the Museum. It was damaged a little by water when my bag got wet. Again, I appreciate your dedicating the March-April issue of the Americal Newsletter to veterans of Hill 260 and the "Million Dollar Tree" for the part that the took in that battle that occurred forty four years ago.

I served in the Americal Division from the time of its activation on New Caledonia until the War was over. I went into Japan with the occupation force and spent five weeks there before returning home. I stayed in the Army Reserve after the war and completed twenty years of service of which I am proud. I was County Agricultural Agent with the Extension Service for 30 years.

I admired the 182 Infantry for their hard fighting during the siege of Hill 260 and praise those many men who lost their lives.

The men from the 246 FA who gave their lives manning the outpost on top of the 'Million Dollar Tree' on Hill 260 were; Lt. Earl E. Excell, T/4 Clarence Fulcher, T/4 Barney O'Neal, Pfc. Hardy Robson, and Pfc. John Lamlen.

Again, I enjoy your Americal Newsletter very much and appreciate the good work of the entire staff.

Sincerely,
Jim Watson
Lt. Col. (Ret)
U.S. Army

BATTERY A 246 FIELD ARTILLERY

Dear Sir;

I am writing about that article on the "Million Dollar Tree" on Hill 260 in Bougainville. That O.P. was manned by Battery A, 246 Field Artillery.

I was a radio operator for the Forward Observer that was with the 182 Infantry on Hill 260. I remember that Battery A lost one Lt. and four enlisted men. I can't recall their names because they were all new replacements. I do know who can fill in all the details and that is Lt. James Watson. (See previous letter Ed) In fact, we were in the same fox-hole. I had a 12 gauge shot gun. He was a damn good Captain! He was a man that would not send his men to do anything that he would not do himself.

I am enclosing a commendation and a citation if you care to print them. I am not bragging--I am proud that I served with the Americal from the time it was formed in New Caledonia until Cebu in the Philippines. I left the unit on Cebu on August 14, 1945 and we stopped at Pearl Harbor right on V.J. Day.

Keep up the good work on the Newsletter.

Your Buddy,
Leonard Mejia

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAL DIVISION ARTILLERY
APO 716

10 March 1944

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : The Officers and Men, "A" Battery, 246th Field Artillery Battalion. (Thru: Commanding Officer, 246th Field Artillery Battalion).

The tradition of the Field Artillery, from the days of the brass cannon, demands that when our infantry is threatened, the artillery stays with its guns and shoots, despite any enemy action. Today, you have all upheld that tradition in a manner to bring additional glory to this age-old tradition.

With a small outpost garrison of the 182nd Infantry cut off and penetrated by the advance elements of a Japanese attack on our positions, your actions in continuing the accurate serving of your guns, although under intense enemy shell fire the while, shall go down in the annals of history as a deed that shall be listed, forever, in the records of this Army. Your fire, and that of your battalion, in close support and barrage missions, placed a ring of steel around the threatened outpost and, to a marked extent, prevented an all-out attack of our lines.

I have served in the artillery through two wars. I have seen many brave deeds by batteries of artillery. Your action today will always be paramount in my memories and I consider it a great privilege and honor to serve with men like you.

W. G. DUNCKEL
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Commanding

THE BATTLE FOR HILL 260

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAL DIVISION

CITATION

TO ACCOMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL AWARD
PUBLISHED IN GENERAL ORDERS NO. 124 THIS HEADQUARTERS

5 August 1944

TECHNICIAN FIFTH GRADE LEONARD MEJIA

Leonard Mejia, 37015579, Technician Fifth Grade, Field Artillery, United States Army, for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy at Bougainville, Solomons Islands, on 11 March 1944. During operations against the enemy at Bougainville on 11 March 1944, Technician Mejia, a switchboard operator, volunteered to aid another man in the laying of two telephone lines across approximately three hundred yards of open terrain where enemy 75mm and 150mm shells were landing. Later he volunteered as a radio operator to accompany an infantry battalion to secure Hill 260, and when casualties were suffered he aided in their evacuation over rough jungle terrain to a rear medical aid station. His courage in the face of enemy fire and his devotion to duty was an inspiration to the officers and men of his unit.

Robert D. McClure

246 FA GRASSHOPPER PILOTS

Dear Jim;

Enclosed is a reproduction of a letter I sent to Victor G. Landers, 57th Eng., Alturas, FL, on Nov 14, 1984 referring to an excellent story appearing in the Sept-Oct 1984 issue of the Americal Newsletter. The picture of that issue was of 'The Million Dollar Tree' on Hill 260 so it was with great nostalgia that a similar picture should appear on the Mar-April 1988 Newsletter. Especially since I see that small speck in the sky to the left of the tree trunk. Who knows?--If you could spot a #6 on the side of that observation plane it may be me--or Killbrough, Samans, Jones, Cochrum, Lynn, Bruce or Parks.

A sad recollection of that historic period was the loss of S/Sgt. Fred Shemas who lived in DuBois, PA just 210 miles from my home in Clearfield. Fred was with one of the assault companies of the 182 Infantry on Hill 260. Most of the Company were killed or wounded. Fred being one of the wounded. I took Fred for a flight over the area shortly after the action to show him the devastation.

As you know, the main thrust of the Japanese was in the area between the 164 Infantry and the 37 Army Division. To give the 37th Div. some relief after the action, units of the Americal were used for patrol duty in their sector. Fred commanded one of these patrols in the vicinity of the Numa-Numa trail where they were ambushed and the entire patrol was lost.

Enjoy the Newsletter. Would like to hear from any of the 246th FA and the Grasshopper Pilots.

Fraternally,
Boyd W. Vokes Sr.
246th FA Pilot

The above mentioned letter follows;

Victor;

Enjoyed your story in the October issue of the Americal Newsletter.

Our our tenures had some parallels that finally converged in the Americal. I entered the Army with a Pa NG regiment (103) which was converted to 155MM guns and trained at Camp Shelby, MS with the 37th and 38th Divisions. I was a S/Sgt., chief of gun sections.

We migrated to Camp Sutton, NC --Camp Kilmer, NJ -- Northern Ireland and England where I departed for OCS and Observation Pilot training at Fort Sill, OK in April 1943. After OCS and flight training, I ended up in New Caledonia in January 1944 and from there assigned to the 246 FA of the Americal along with the other grasshopper pilot, Marion (Junior) Parks from Muncie, IN.

I also had climbed to the top of Hill 260 with Gen. Slocumb, FA Commander, and party prior to the Jap attack. On the day the Japs dislodged the platoon of Infantry and killed those in the tree OP, and not being aware of this action, I came winging around the Torokina side of the hill. Hearing .30 caliber machine gun fire (Jap MG was much more rapid) and thinking, 'Boy we're giving it to them now.' But looking back, I saw tracers ripping past my tail, so I departed from there as fast as possible. Later I learned of the Japs taking Hill 260, capturing one of our MG's, and nearly doing me in.

Some of we Cub pilots were on Cebu (west of the island with the guerrillas) two days before the invasion. We adjusted naval gun fire on the beach area below the city and later used the boulevard in front of the capitol for our landing strip. Shelled off of there by Jap 20mm fire from the hills above, we took the Cubs to the (former) Jap landing strip on Mactan. There we saw the monument commemorating Magellan, fortunately missing the mines on the strip which you mention.

Even though I had 138 points, Gen Slocumb would not allow any artillery officers to be rotated--he was all heart--. So I made the trip to Yokohama, Japan.

My wife and I have spent the past three winters in Florida and I have e contacted many Americal vets. They include Millard Turner, Louis Foss, Alfred Guttag, Tom McMurray and many others.

Boyd W. Vokes Sr.

Editor's Note;

The story on 260 generated a lot of mail and I have learned a great deal about different units that were involved. How about something from the 57th Engineers that built the platform on the 'Million Dollar Tree'?

The 182 never lost Hill 260--they were pushed off of the lower slope but held the higher slope. The 'Tree' stood on a narrow ridge between the two slopes. This prevented a full scale attack from the higher slope and the steep sides of the lower slope made attack very difficult. It took a lot of help to regain it.

NEW CALEDONIA

How did you make out with your French lesson? Here is the translation;

CARAVEL

(Bulletin of the Americal Overseas Veteran)

Our friends from the U.S., Jack Folmer and Edward Smith send their "best wishes".

The Americal Newsletter, a bulletin of the Association of the soldiers that were stationed here during the last war, passes on an article by our friend Col. Holcombe.

I think our readers also have the right to know that the separatist faction is backed by Kadaffi. Eighteen separatists were sent to Libya for instruction before the elections and Kadaffi has donated five million dollars to their cause.

Thank you Colonel Holcombe

(Translation by Mrs. John Franklin)

At the request of Paul Paturel, President of the Americal Museum in New Caledonia, it was voted at the last meeting of the Executive Council, to set up a trust fund in the ADVA treasury to receive donations for the Museum in New Caledonia. This was done so donation could be sent in one check in order to avoid the \$10.00 per check tax. The Council also voted \$100 to start the fund.

The following is a background on Paul Paturel and the Museum followed by a notice as to where to send donations.

INFORMATION; Paul R. Paturel

Paul R. Paturel was born in Belfort, France and has been living in New Caledonia since 1971. Founder and president of the Americal Museum Association in November of 1985 with Charles Pelletier, born in Noumea, as vice president.

Both men have given all their spare time for several years in search of material on the sites of the old camps of the Y4US troops based in New Caledonia. The Association has 50 members. There are five Americans--ex GI's--Lee Lawrence, Kenneth Joop, Emory C. Lavallee, Bertrand Leveille and Bill Barney, living in New Caledonia and they are Honorary Members. Every year, on the 12th of March, as commemoration ceremony is held and flowers are placed at the Poindimie Memorial.

New Caledonians have kept a very good souvenir of the 'American Era' on the territory. Because of this, Paul L. Paturel decided that in homage to the ex-combatants of the Pacific war a memorial should be built at Poindimie. It would be a Quonset type building where material of that age could be displayed. Financing of this project is entirely private. Paul Paturel has invested all of his savings (\$70,000) this represents many years of work. There is still more to be accomplished (walls, sanitary, blocks, electricity, offices accommodations etc.) \$40,000 is still needed to finish the work.

The President would like to thank the first donators; Edward Smith --Florida Wanda Engel --Ohio James Buckle--Mass. Jacob Carl---New York

We turn to our friends in the United States for assistance.

Americans are welcome in New Caledonia and we are the only island where the memory has remained anchored forever and the pro-American associations are working on that one goal.

AMERICAL MUSEUM

NEW CALEDONIA

You have read in past issues of the Americal Museum that has been established in New Caledonia to honor all servicemen that were stationed on that island during World War II. In a recent issue donations were asked for to help support this Museum. However, it was learned that every check that is sent to New Caledonia, regardless of size, is taxed ten dollars. (\$10.00)

Paul Paturel, a man that has put much time and money into this project wrote and asked if we could establish a fund here at Headquarters and then mail one check for a donation to the Museum.

It was voted at the last Executive Council meeting to establish such a fund and start it off with a one hundred dollar donation from A.D.V.A.

Any member that desires to donate to this fund please please make your check out to: AMERICAL MUSEUM NEW CALEDONIA and send it to:

Americal Division Veterans Association

[REDACTED]
Boston, MA 02104

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS



UPI/Reuters photo

PROBLEMS FOR FRANCE - Hooded Melanesian separatists man a roadblock on tracks leading to tribal villages in the Canala region of New Caledonia yesterday. Separatists holed up in a cave on the island of Ouvéa have held 15 policemen for 12 days and another eight people for a week. French Interior Minister Charles Pasqua rejected a demand by a separatists that the government name an envoy to mediate Melanesian self-determination on the overseas territory.

In the event that you have not read of the recent unrest that is going on in New Caledonia a few of the news items follow;

Boston Globe April 30, 1988;

Noumea, New Caledonia--A French farmer acquitted in the slaying of 10 Melanesian separatists was killed yesterday, the first European settler to be slain in a week of violence in this French Pacific territory.

French settler Jose Lapetite, 31, was fatally shot on his farm on New Caledonia's west coast, bringing the death toll to seven since a group of separatists attacked a police station on the island of Ouvéa April 22.

The six other victims were military police or Melanesians. Authorities are still seeking to free 23 policemen taken hostage on Ouvéa by the Melanesian separatists attackers.

Yesterday, the separatists released a hostage and ordered him to negotiate with French authorities.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

NEW CALEDONIA Con't

The attack on the police station was aimed at blocking elections for regional assemblies that was held on April 24, along with the first round of the French presidential elections.

The elections were carried out despite some disruptions, and were won overwhelmingly by the party aligned with conservative Premier Jacques Chirac. The separatists are demanding that the results be voided and that negotiations begin on independence.

Boston Globe May 1, 1988

Noumea, New Caledonia--A French Navy vessel opened fire on a beachfront encampment of about 30 armed Melanesian separatists in a marked escalation of France's military to defuse the deepening crisis on the South Pacific territory.

No one was injured in the naval barrage, which a spokesman for the French High Commissioner said was provoked when the separatists opened fire on a land patrol of French paramilitary troops.

Los Angeles Times May 2, 1988

Noumea, New Caledonia--Melanesian separatists yesterday called 22 French paramilitary troops that they have been holding for 10 days in a heavily fortified cave "prisoners of war."

The separatist leaders called on the United Nations to send an independent commission to investigate what it calls 'French colonial war'.

The separatists decided to call their French hostages 'prisoners of war' only after the French government labeled the separatists as 'rebels'.

Prime Minister Chirac is considered a conservative and in favor of New Caledonia remaining a French colony--as the Europeans and many of the Melanesians prefer. President Mitterrand, whose background is Communist leaning, would negotiate with the separatist, who call themselves 'Kanak Socialist Nationalist Liberation Front', and perhaps set New Caledonia up as an independent nation.

The leaders of this separatist group have been trained in Libya and their ambition is to set up a Communist state in the Pacific Ocean.

Premier Chirac ordered the stronghold on the island of Ouvéa stormed. It was. Most of the separatists were killed but the hostages were freed.

Premier Chirac and President Mitterrand were in a run off election for President this past week and Mitterrand was the winner. Chirac has offered his resignation. New Caledonia will have to wait now to see what the President will do about any continued unrest.

Today is May 11, 1988--the one hundredth (100) birthday of Irving Berlin. Mr. Berlin's family migrated to the United States from Siberia when he was very small and he worked his way up the ladder of success. As you know he wrote many patriotic songs. He was once asked, "Are you for your country when it is wrong? His reply--when we start making mistakes and doing things wrong, I'll resist it all I can, but I'm still all for my country and there comes a time when you have to stand up and shout about your patriotism--"If this is flag waving, do you know of a better flag to wave?"

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

CHECK THAT CARD NOW!

ADJUTANT'S REPORT

SOUTH EAST CHAPTER REUNION

The spring reunion of the South East Chapter was held at the Vanderbilt Inn on the Gulf, Naples, FL April 21 thru April 24, 1988. Arthur Wood reports that about (28) couples attended and a good time was had by all. Below is a picture "Courtesy of Pat Farino SE Chapter's Official Photographer" of some of the group attending.



At the general meeting Regional Commander Ed. A. Heartquist discussed the 1989 National Convention to be hosted by the Chapter which will be held at the Holiday Inn, International Drive, Orlando, FL. 32809, June 1, 2, 3, 4, 1988. Ed set up some of the required committees and will be talking to Pete Messina in June at the Carlisle, PA., National Convention for additional details. Arthur Wood the Chairman of the reunion at Naples reported that this reunion was the best for attendance that the SE Chapter had hosted and detailed plans will be announced for the November Reunion at a later date. National Adjutant Bill Dunphy presented a report on the activities at National Headquarters such as Life Membership, Membership, Finances and other details happening thru out the past year.

ADJUTANT REPORTS

The following named men realized a bargain when they saw it and signed up for a Life Membership before the rates went up on January 1, 1988.

Verdinal T. McKean (164 Infantry), Alfred Petrucci (182 Infantry), Leonard Forecki (182 Infantry), Theodore Blatter (246 FA), James Dalton (198 LIB), Howard Moulton 182 Infantry, and Daniel Masterpole (182 Infantry).

Even though the cost of Life Membership has gone up, it is still a good buy!

Thanks for your notes fellows.

Bill

COVER STORY

GENERAL ARTHUR E. BROWN, JR.

General Arthur E. Brown, Jr. will be the guest speaker at the Americal National Convention to be held in Carlisle, PA on June 9, 10, 11, 12, 1988.

General Brown was commissioned in the Infantry upon graduation from the United States Military Academy in 1953.

Following completion of the Airborne, Ranger and Basic Courses at the Infantry School, General Brown reported to his first assignment as a Platoon Leader in Company A, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

Since then, he has served in Airborne, Light and Mechanized Infantry units, completed two combat tours, and commanded at every level from company through brigade in Germany, the United States and Vietnam. He commanded a rifle company of the 60th Infantry at Fort Carson, Colorado; the 1st Battalion, 52 Infantry of the 198th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division in Vietnam, and the 1st Brigade of the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas. He served as Assistant Division Commander of the 25th Infantry Division in Hawaii and he was also Commanding General, Army Readiness and Mobilization Region IV at Fort Gillem, Georgia.

In his service with the Americal Division, General Brown assumed command of the 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry in September 1969. He served with that unit until February 1970, participating in heavy fighting against North Vietnamese regulars in the northern provinces of Vietnam. In addition, he served the Americal Division as its Liaison Officer to the III Marine Amphibious Force at Da Nang. During these assignments, General Brown earned the Silver Star, two awards of the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, and multiple awards of the Air Medal. He won the Combat Infantryman's Badge during a previous Vietnam tour as an advisor.

General Brown has held operations and training staff positions in the United States and abroad, to include Executive Assistant to the NATO Military Committee, and as a Division Chief and Executive to the Deputy Chief of Staff of Operations and Plans, United States Army.

A graduate of the Command and General Staff College and the Army War College, General Brown holds a Master's Degree in Public and International Affairs from the University of Pittsburgh. He was Assistant Professor of Military Science at Florence State University in Alabama, taught military strategy at the Army War College and served as the Deputy Superintendent of West Point.

Immediately prior to his present assignment, General Brown served four years as the Director of the Army Staff. On 24 June 1987, General Brown became the 20th Vice Chief of Staff, United States Army.

General Brown and his wife Jerry are the parents of three children. They currently reside at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C.

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

REUNION REUNION

Vietnam Veterans Parade & Reunion

August 18, 19 & 20



The North Coast Vietnam Veterans Coalition is spearheading a Vietnam Veterans Reunion in Cleveland, August 18-20, 1988. The Coalition includes:

Some 50,000 veterans are expected to make the trip to Cleveland to renew acquaintances and share in the unity with which they served and Memorial Wall will be on display. The weekend kicks off with a "Winged Victory" highlighted by a Wall of Honor Parade and much entertainment. Your help and financial support is needed to assure that this event is representative of Cleveland's sense of patriotism and appreciation to those Americans who answered the call to serve. For more information, call (216) 621-7961, or clip the coupon and mail it with your contribution.

Discounted fares available through Convention Central, 1-800-468-7022. Hours: 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Monday-Friday (Eastern Time).

North Coast Vietnam Veterans Coalition, Inc. 400 Terminal Tower • Cleveland, Ohio 44113
I have not enclosed a contribution but request more information.

Enclosed is my contribution of:

\$10 \$15 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$ _____ (Other)

With a contribution of \$25 or more the donor will receive an official "Firebase Cleveland" T-shirt.

SIZES: S M L XL XXL

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____



CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Thursday, August 18

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration and reception
5:30 p.m.
7:00 p.m.
8:00 p.m.
9:00 p.m. Opening ceremony
Kick-off Dinner
Ceremony honoring the Chicago and Los Angeles Parade Committees and local veterans
Guest Speakers

Friday, August 19

10:30 a.m. Welcome home parade through downtown Cleveland
12:00 noon Entertainment and celebrity speakers on Malls A, B, and C and in the Flats entertainment district.
3:00 p.m. Cleveland Convention Center open for displays and workshops
9:00 p.m. Helicopter fly-by, U.S. Army Reserve
Events on city properties close and continue in the Flats and area hotels

Saturday, August 20

1:00 p.m. POW/MIA ceremony on Mall C
2:30 p.m. Fly-by, Ohio Air National Guard
3:00 p.m. Entertainment begins on Mall C and in the Flats
9:00 p.m. Fireworks display or laser show
10:00 p.m. Official end of event

Sunday, August 21

1:00 p.m. Farewell ceremonies

The Charlie Daniels Band has agreed to appear for the veterans on Friday, August 19, as Charlie Daniels himself will be one of the parade marshals. Other entertainers have been contacted and are now firming up their 1988 schedules.

Other events and activities will be added as soon as the Executive Committee can negotiate and firm up commitments.

REUNION REUNION

Yankee Division Veterans Association

26TH INFANTRY (YANKEE) DIVISION

69TH NATIONAL CONVENTION JUNE 9-10-11, 1988
HOLIDOME (HOLIDAY INN) HOLYOKE, MA 01040

Welcome To Members From Our Attached Units In World War II. 390 AAA (SP) BN. 778TH TANK BN. And 166TH ENGR (COMBAT) BN.

Mail and return to:

John G. Thompson

Melrose, MA
02176

REUNION

43d Infantry "Winged Victory" Division
September 9, 10 & 11, 1988

The Centre of Vermont
Holiday Inn

Rutland, VT 05701



For details contact: Lou Calarco,
11 Laurel Hill Dr
So. Burlington, VT 05401

VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM WAR INC.
August 19, 20, 1988
Waynesboro, PA

Write to:

Jerry Lehman
Chambersburg, PA 17201
Call [REDACTED] Charles & Shirley Hall
Chambersburg, PA 17201
Call [REDACTED]

VETS FESTIVAL
Evansville, IN
July 18, --24, 1988

Info write to:
Vets Festival '88
[REDACTED]
Evansville, IN

This office also received a notice of a reunion called "SPIRIT OF '88 DEBT OF HONOR COMMITTEE". This reunion is to be held on Memorial Day weekend 1988. It looks like a well planned program and we wish it the best. Sorry we did not get the notice in our last edition but it arrived after we had gone to press.

HAVE YOU CALLED THAT OLD BUDDY LATELY?

There is no better time to do it than right now!
Do you realize how fast the years are flying by?

REUNION REUNION

GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN VETERANS
MUSEUM DEDICATION

August 7, 8, 9, 1988
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

INFORMATION
Gene Keller

Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008

182 INFANTRY ASSOCIATION

Greetings to our compatriots of the Americal Division Veterans Association. Our article for the January-February newsletter didn't make it on time. Unfortunately, we got bumped off. We had announced our "15th Annual Memorial Services" for May 22, 1988. We had hoped many of our 182 Infantry buddies, from ADVA, could have attended. But it was not to be. Maybe next year! Our first "call to join" went out in the first Americal Newsletter of the New Year. We were elated! Our call was answered by sixteen (16) of you '182' troopers and we have signed up ten (10) of these to date.

We do not give up easily! We extend another invitation to you former and present 182 Infantry stalwarts to join with us. Write to:
182 Infantry Association

Everett, MA 02149

Come join us as we "Remember and Uphold our Ancient Honors." You'll not be sorry you did.
Charlie Doyle

Charlie--your last letter was not 'bumped off'. It did not arrive until after our Newsletter was given to the printer. Sorry about that. I will contact you about our cut-off dates. Editor

BRONZE STAR AVAILABLE

The Bronze Star Medal is authorized under Executive Order 9419, to be awarded to veterans who have showed distinction in battle. The Department of Defense permits the Bronze Star to be awarded to veterans who have earned the Combat Infantryman's Badge during World War II the Korean War and/or the Vietnam War.

It has been noted that controversy concerning the awarding of the Bronze star to Korean and/or Vietnam War veterans who earned the Combat Infantry's Badge is due to erroneous articles published in various veteran publications.

Specific information relating to the Bronze Star Medal can be obtained by contacting the following Office;

Commander, Total Army Personnel Agency
Attn: DAP-PDA
Chief Warrant Officer 3 Garrett Hoffman
[REDACTED]
Alexandria, VA 22332

(Thanks to Joe Micek for this info)

IMPORTANT!

You Should Know

DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES

MAILED JANUARY 1988

We do not like to place your name in the Newsletter but as a final plea to pay your dues and not to drop you from the ROSTER the following list of members are (5) months overdue in payment.

1st Notice: Dues Cards mailed in advance of payment January 1988

2nd Notice: March-April Newsletter your card number published as over due

3rd Notice: May-June Newsletter your card number published as overdue.

FINAL NOTICE: In the July-August Newsletter your name will be published and removed from the Roster as Membership Dues overdue.

PLEASE MAIL IN YOUR \$12.00 DUES PAYMENT:

J-0004 J-0002 J-0003 J-0024 J-0030 J-0020
 J-0016 J-0044 J-0041 J-0059 J-0082 J-0096
 J-0088 J-0100 J-0117 J-0120 J-0101 J-0110
 J-0119 J-0105 J-0104 J-0125 J-0130 J-0136
 J-0141 J-0135 J-0149 J-0152 J-0156 J-0160
 J-0174 J-0181 J-0183 J-0184 J-0186 J-0202
 J-0207 J-0218 J-0214 J-0226 J-0237 J-0230
 J-0244 J-0246 J-0260 J-0254 J-0242 J-0247
 J-0271 J-0274 J-0272 J-0078

In the March - April Newsletter I published (76) Card numbers and I want to thank the Members who read the Newsletter and saw their Card Number and mailed in their Dues of \$12.00.

PLEASE NOTE : The May Dues Notices will be in the mail in a week or two and no later than June 1st 1988 so check your old card and see if your payment is DUE.

SEND IN THAT \$ 12.00 payment.

NEW ADDRESS WHEN YOU MOVE

Don't keep it a SECRET - Let us know

CLIP AND MAIL TO HEADQUARTERS

American News Letter

Boston, MA., 02104

Name _____

New Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

ADDRESS CHANGE?

THE AMERICAL
Force of the Future.



WWII

VIETNAM

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

* Michael F. Browning
11th LIB
Brunswick, GA
 Earl P. Cook
26th Signal Battalion
Atlanta, GA.
 * Dan C. Dinklage
196th LIB
Humble, TX
 John J. Ford
221st Field Artillery
Davie, FL
 * Peter J. Gallagher
196th LIB
Los Gatos, CA.
 Donald H. Landry
11th LIB
Baton, Rouge, LA.
 Reginald C. Marchand
247th Field Artillery
Somerset, MA.
 John L. Norman
3/16 Artillery 1st Cav
Escanaba, MI
 Seymour Rosenwasser
245th Field Artillery
Yonkers, NY
 Ken Sears
11th Armored
Guam
 Stanley S. Stann
132nd Infantry
Skokie, IL.
 * Vietnam Veteran

* * * SUMMARY * * *

WWII 563 Vietnam 125 Assoc 11

LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN ADVA

40 or under.....	\$125	Payment	5*
41 to 60.....	\$100	"	4*
61 to 70.....	\$ 75	"	3*
71 or over.....	\$ 50	"	2*

*NOTE: Payments of \$25 in 6 months intervals
Any member who has paid his dues in advance
will receive credit toward LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Date of Birth _____ Age _____

THANK YOU

I would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Executive Council for voting to make a contribution to the Massachusetts Vietnam Memorial Fund. It is appropriate that the Americal Division Veterans Association contribute to this Memorial because of the 1327 servicemen from Massachusetts that gave their lives in Vietnam, approximately 10%, or 132 of those heroes were from the Americal Division.

I especially want to thank the National Commander, Bernard Chase, for his personal contribution.

This show of caring and interest in the Vietnam veteran in your ranks has restored my faith in the Americal Division Veterans Association.

Yours in Comradeship,
Roland T. Castranova

Roly served as a Medic in the 11 LIB in Vietnam during 1967-1968. He is the County Coordinator for Essex County--Massachusetts Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund.

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

Okay boys, you thought the dedication of the "wall" was a big one. Then came the dedication of the statue a couple of years later. What a celebration!! How could it be surpassed? Chicago came next. At least 200,000 Nam vets for that one. I thought that we would never top Chicago, but then came Houston 87'. It looks like we can count on at least 200,000 Nam vets for any event that is well organized and well advertised. The next one will be in Cleveland, Ohio, on August 18-20. We expect a crowd to at least match the last one.

Your Vietnam editor has arranged to have a meet place for the vets from our Division. We'll have a suite at the ARMY's HQ.

The Americal Division Flags will be ready for the parade on Friday August 19th. Do not forget, that's FRIDAY, a work day so most of you will have to make arrangements for missing a day on the job, just like me. If you don't, that evening on the national news you'll see us and wish that you had.

The party hotel will be the Holiday Inn Lakeside, located at 1111 Lakeside Avenue Cleveland, Ohio. Phone [REDACTED]

Check out the schedule. We'll run the hospitality suite the night of the parade, Friday, if you dog-faces want to buck up, we'll do it again on Saturday. Be There. We expect at least 200,000 Nam vets to be in town that weekend. One of them could be the buddy that saved your life.

together then, together now
Ron Ward

Dear Friend:

As a veteran, I'm always looking for someone I served with. What was his full name? Where does he live now? Is he still alive? These questions have been asked many times by myself and other vets as we remember our friends from 20 years ago. Because of these questions, I've formed the Veterans Directory to help us locate each other.

We are a volunteer organization with lots of work to do. If you can offer your services, it would be greatly appreciated. As the completed questionnaires are completed, they will be compiled into a directory to be published at a later date. We cannot determine when the directories will be ready for sale, but all those listing will receive notification by mail when they're ready. Profits from the sale of the directories will be applied to a veterans fund for vets who have experienced financial devastation through illness or natural disaster.

If you have questions or comments, please feel free to write. It is most important that vets keep in touch. Hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,
Ron McGinnis
Veterans Directory

Healdsburg, CA 95448

Editors note: We've learned about this directory from Americal Donut-Dolly Larry Hines. I thank her for the info. Send a stamped self addressed envelope to the Directory PO Box for a free application/questionnaire.

Dear Sirs:

I am working on a reunion for the 281st Assault Helicopter Company that was stationed in Nha Trang, South Vietnam. If you could put a note in your magazine or newsletter I would certainly appreciate it. Reunion is planned for the summer of '88' in San Francisco. Call Duane Brudig [REDACTED]

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

Greetings Ron;

I'm sending in my dues. I also sent in some info on Vietnam AO maps. You may be aware of this source of maps, if not I'm sure that there might be some persons out there interested in the address.

I'd like to say that I have thoroughly enjoyed participating in two Vietnam veteran parades. I have never associated with any groups of veterans and was never really enthused about taking part in a "Welcome Home Parade" for us vets. I'm sure that I felt it was impossible for such an event to have any sincere appreciation expressed toward the vets. Fortunately I was proven wrong by the many persons who lined the streets and cheered to express their gratitude us.

I participated in the Chicago parade with two other friends from my platoon, and in the Houston parade with two others from the platoon and five from my company. All of us having been in Nam at the same time. Needless to say, it had a very positive effect on all of us. It's quite a time warp being around the same men that I was with in Nam, and I feel that the parade gave us the feeling of being welcomed home after a battle. I'm sure that it filled a void that has been in my heart after coming home from Nam. The persisting feeling that our sacrifice in Nam was no more than a bad memory to our countrymen has been laid to rest. We left one another's presence with a feeling of renewed friendship and appreciation that all had not been in vain.

Now, if only the lessons learned are kept before us, the next generation of warriors will not have to suffer the silence of an indifferent nation. Physical wounds suffered in combat are enough of a burden for anyone to bear. Let's try to be supportive of those who must bear the responsibility to answer our country's call to arms.

I urge any vet who has never participated in a welcome home affair, to do so. There are definitely benefits for all.

Dan Camacho

Editors note: For the AO maps that Dan mentioned, contact ALLIED, Drawer [REDACTED], AZ 85312. Prices range according to map size and paper quality from \$7 to \$30. Our two friends from the 196th Locate-A-Brother, Jim (Pigman) Crum and Tony May also have maps available, dirt cheap.

New member, Roger Stowe, who served with 1/14th Artillery during 1971, wants to thank the newsletter staff for putting his name in a previous issue. As a result he received a call from another guy who served in his AO. They didn't know each other, but Roger said that they had a good chat anyway.

Roger was also having a problem with receiving his newsletter in a timely manner. Our adjutant, Bill Dunphy is looking into this. If any other men should have a similar problem, contact Bill directly.

Dear Editor:

I would appreciate your publishing the following notice in the soonest available copy of your publication, and thank you for same.

Noted author and military historian Eric Hamel is presently collecting detailed, first-hand accounts of military actions associated with the 1968 Tet Offensive for a book on the subject. Anyone who was in Vietnam between January 29 and April 1 1968 and who is interested in providing his or her account should contact the author.

Eric Hamel
1149 Grand Teton Drive
Pacifica, CA 94044

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

Since the last newsletter, we've received a lot of ammunition on "Hanoi-Jane" and her continuing effort to make a film in Connecticut and Massachusetts. The news clippings from the east coast newspapers continue to arrive from our comrades living out that way. I appreciate all you men who took the time to clip and send them to me. One even appeared here in my local St. Louis newspaper today. Seems that former President Jimmy Carter's wife has come out of the woods to support Jane's endeavor. She thinks that the unforgiving Nam vets are a minority and most citizens are ready to let her acts of treason be forgotten. Forget never!!! I have confidence that the Nam vets on the east coast and those that support us, are going to make it hot for the Benedict Arnold of Beverly Hills if she continues to try filming. As for Mrs. Jimmy Carter, we aren't forgetting that her husband pardoned the draft dodgers from the Vietnam War, so I'm not surprised that she's gone left wing.

So boys, let's keep the heat on. No retreat!! No surrender!!

Under pressure from veterans groups and mothers of soldiers missing in action, the city council of Holyoke, Massachusetts voted 11-4 to declare Jane Fonda "persona non grata" in their town. Ms. Fonda, who plans to film her upcoming movie *Unjoin Street* in the town, is hated by veterans for her anti-Vietnam War activism.

In 1972, Ms. Fonda visited the notorious "Hanoi Hilton", a North Vietnamese prison renowned for torturing American servicemen. Fonda told the world that the American soldiers were treated well, despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary. Her visit was a tremendous propaganda coup for the communists.

The Holyoke City Council's vote was purely symbolic and does not ban Fonda from the town.

Editors note: We received the above news clipping from H.G. Holole in Hartford, CT. I hope I didn't spell that last name wrong. It was difficult to read the signature. Many thanks friend for the info. Jane Fonda bashing is a favorite pastime here at the ADVA.

Here's one for the guys in the great state of Texas. Milford, Texas, to be exact. I think that's in the vicinity of Dallas. There's a place you might want to check out called "Fast Eddie's Walkin Stick Shop", located at 104 Main Street. Opened a couple of years ago as a retail outlet for Fast Eddie Wilson's unique hand made walking sticks similar to the one he carried on the "Journey to Remember" from Dallas to San Antonio in the fall of 1985. The shop offers a variety of craftwork consigned from other artisans across the state.

It's primary attraction however is a growing exhibit of Vietnam memorabilia. Local vets have chosen to display in the shop, artifacts and war trophies that they obtained in Nam. The laid back environment of the shop has made the place into somewhat of a "vet center" where the brothers and sisters can gather and find that they're not alone.

In addition to crafts, the shop offers vets caps, T-shirts, bumper stickers, etc. from various organizations. Also available are fact sheets and reference material related to the POW-MIA's.

Any of our members who have material of interest to other vets, are invited to send that material to the shop where it will be displayed to the public. Newsletters, reunion announcements, inquiries, etc. Here's a chance to circulate your stuff to a good number of people.

The Stick Shop

Milford, Texas 76670

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

Last year an old warrior who proudly served with the Americal passed away at the age of 57. Some of you may remember 1SGT. James Jagers when he was "top kick" for G Btry 1/55 Artillery in Nam during Jan 69 thru Jan 70. His death was brought to our attention by ADVA member LTC. Donald Alsbro, also a Nam vet. A SNAFU delayed the printing of the notice until now. We regret the delay.

Jagers died August 30, 1987 in Benton Harbor, MI. He was a native of Hackelberg, AL. He was the son of Paul Jagers and the late Oza (Hudson) Jagers. He served 20 years in the Army 1952-1972. His decorations included the ARCOM and two Bronze Stars. Upon retirement from the Army, he was employed for 14 years with the Berrien County MI. Sheriff's Dept. as a Deputy Sheriff in charge of jail security with approximately 57 guards and matrons reporting to him. He was respected and well liked by those knew and called him "Sgt. JJ". Survivors include his wife Pauline (Polly Brower) Jagers, 2 brothers, a sister, a son, 2 daughters, 3 stepdaughters, one stepson, 3 grand-daughters, 5 step-grandsons, and 1 step-granddaughter.

Memorials may be made to:

Mercy Memorial Hospital Oncology Dept.

1234 Napier Ave.

St. Joseph, MI. 49085

Berrien County Cancer Service

Bridgman, MI. 49106

To contact the family:

Polly Jagers

Benton Harbor, MI. 49022

A thank you is in order for one of our newer members, Greg Cook, an ex-grunt with C 2/1 196th Bde.. Greg attended Firebase Phoenix 88' and was kind enough to update me on the activities that took place. I was happy to see on the program that an Americal Medal of Honor recipient, Nick Bacon, was one of the honored guests. Looks like there was plenty of music and comradeship had by all the vets in attendance. Greg writes, "Enclosed is a copy of the events at Firebase Phoenix, just recently held here in Arizona. It turned out OK. Decent amount of veteran participation. Are you planning on New Mexico and Angel Fire for Memorial Day, or a local event? Try and keep Firebase Phoenix in mind if you ever feel like a winter vacation. We hope to keep it as an annual event".

Vet Larry Horn still continues the work with his Vietnam Veterans Registry. He's been at it for several years now. The ADVA was contacted recently and asked to mention that his project is alive and well. The Registry is a non-profit computerized list of Nam vets who have provided Larry with their names and some info on their service in Vietnam. Larry uses this info to assist vets in locating fellow comrades in order to substantiate veterans claims, locate veterans next of kin, organize reunions, etc..

There is no fee for registration although any donations are gladly accepted. Contact Larry at the below address for a free questionnaire which will enter you in the Registry.

Vietnam Veterans Registry Inc.

Brighton, Maine 04009

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

Dear Ron;

Thanks so much for the help in trying to get my old unit back together for a reunion. As I promised you, I would let you know what we've done so far so any of the other ADVA members may wish to try also.

First of all it helps to know a computer programmer or to have a P.C. to keep file of all the names and information. The next thing is to get a list of names and addresses as well as social security numbers if possible. It's easier since 1969 when the Army went to SSAN rather than service numbers. I'm still working on different ways to get the names and numbers. So far I've written to the National Archives which for a small fee is sending me all the general orders for my company from 67' to 72'. These orders will be for the decorations etc., but will have names and numbers that we'll feed into the computer. We've also been trying to locate the unit rosters. In our case, the Archives don't have them but the Records Center in St. Louis may. After I get a sizable amount of names, we'll print out a computer list. This will go to the V.A., attention of the privacy officer with a request for him to forward forthcoming correspondence to these individuals. In our case with so many names, 1000 plus, they will tell us how many they can locate, or find the last address on file. I'll then have a flyer printed up(good thing I'm a printer), give the V.A. a stamped envelope and hope for a good return. Hopefully, those that respond will furnish us with more addresses and we'll end up with a reunion in 1989 in Chicago.

If anyone else has some suggestions, I'd appreciate it. This is only one company from Vietnam, yet I think it would be possible in the future to get names for the entire division and get a mailing out. I think the response would be good. It's something for the ADVA to investigate.

I don't know how much this is going to cost yet. That's why I called you about the bulk rate. The idea of the dollar for the forwarding is also a good idea depending on how funds go.

The reason for the privacy officer at the V.A. is to keep the anonymity of those who wish. I know of a lot of guys that don't wish to have anyone bring up the war and I respect that. I do know that there are a lot of men out there who would like to know of the ADVA and become part of it, and in the case of a unit reunion, get together again. That's why I'm doing it.

Your Brother,
"Dutch" DeGroot
Amrical M.P. Vietnam

Our members in the southern California area might want to make a note of the below show schedule for the Coalition For The Full Accounting Of all POW-MIA's. The organization director is ADVA member, Dale Fry. The Coalition will be busy at these shows, working to spread the word on the POW-MIA issue. Why not stop by and show your support.

April 9-10 San Bernadino Showgrounds
16-17 Del Mar Fairgrounds
23-24 Santa Maria Fairgrounds
29-30 Great Western-Pomona
May 1 Great Western-Pomona
7-8 Ventura County Fairgrounds
14-15 " "
21-22 Bakersfield County Fairgrounds
28-29 "

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

Pete Messina, our chairman for the annual reunion in Carlisle June 9-12, has informed me that we can expect to meet a former 1/52nd Infantry C.O. at the reunion. LTC Brown, now 4 Star General Brown, who holds the title of Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, that's the second highest rank possible, answering to the Chief of Staff. I don't know the man personally, in fact I never heard of him. But that's not unusual considering I was discharged as a mere sergeant back in 69'. In my three years in the army, I can only recall seeing a General on a couple of occasions. The sight of any officer above the rank of Captain was enough to make you change paths to avoid eye contact and a salute.

Things have changed now that we're middle aged men. I now realize that the high ranking officers were mortals, like us, and their jobs were just as distasteful as ours. We obeyed orders that they passed on from someone even higher than them.

This is an opportunity to meet on a personal basis a man of high rank who once commanded one of our battalions in the field during Nam. I don't want to miss it, and I hope the rest of you Nam vets feel the same.

And Pete, we thank you for all the work you're doing to make the annual reunion a success. It involves a lot of work, and we'll always remember you for that in addition to your distinguished service during the "Big One", as a lot of us Nam vets call WW2.

Nam vets!!! Don't miss this chance. The annual reunion is June 9-12 in Carlisle, PA.. I look for a better crowd than ever of Nam vets to be there. If you didn't register yet as a participant, no sweat, show up anyway. I promise you a good time.

Legislation authorizing the construction of a statue at the Vietnam War Memorial in honor of the approximately 10,000 women who served in Vietnam has been introduced in Congress as bill S.2042

The introduction of S.2042 came after the Commission of Fine Arts last October defeated a proposal by the Vietnam Veteran Women's Memorial Project to add a statue of a female veteran in the vicinity of the "Wall".

This legislation, if passed, would direct the Secretary of the Interior to select a suitable site.

The legislation also states that the cost of the project (\$1.2 million) shall not be borne by the United States government or the District of Columbia. Private fund raising is underway.

I urge you to contact your elected representative and voice your approval or disapproval.



Women's Statue...
Pictured above is a replica of the bronze statue of a woman veteran proposed to be added to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington.

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

Dear Bill;

You are wonderful! Thank you for printing my letter in your March newsletter regarding information on my father, SFC Marshall Robertson. I found out that my father's death is chronicled in Keith Nolan's book, 'Death Valley'. The book deals with the NVA Offensive in Vietnam during the summer of 1969. There were several first hand accounts of my father's death and it is a wonderful documentation. This book is a real treasure to my family. I was able to contact several men via the book, who served in Nam with my dad. I had a lengthy phone conversation with Dad's Colonel, Captains, Lieutenants, and even Rocky Bleir.

Few people can understand why these men are so important to me but they really are. These men and I share something special--we share the joy of having known my father and the pain of having lost him. These men are very special to me. I don't think even they realize just how special.

Anyway, this is truly a success story. I could never thank you enough. Also, a special thanks to Richard Garwood of Indiana for bringing the book to my attention. I read it every day--over and over again. It is one of my most prized possessions.

For anyone else interested in this period of the Vietnam War (Summer of 1969) this book is a must read. The name again is 'Death Valley' by Keith Nolan, published by Presidio Press, 1986. The book can be ordered from the publisher at 31 Pamaron Way, Novato, CA 94947.

Thanks again for all of your kind and generous help. You have given me more than you will ever know.

Patricia Mullikin

Adjutant Note; I have talked to Patricia twice on the telephone and she is very happy with the letters and information that she has received from members of the Americal. Thanks for your help. Bill

132 INFANTRY

Dear Mr. William L. Dunphy;

This letter is to inform you that I have received my membership card, pin and the decal for my car. I'm very proud and happy to be a member of the Americal division Veterans Association.

Mr. Dunphy, could you please give me some information and how I go about getting the medals for the service I performed during World War II.

Sincerely,
Herbert O. Einig

P.S. I was on New Caledonia when the Americal Division was formed from Task force 6814.

Adjutant Note; Write to--
General Service Administration
Military Personnel Records

St. Louis, MO 63132

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?
CHECK THAT CARD NOW!

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

Co. C 182 INFANTRY

Dear Bill;

Enclosed is my check for an Americal Car plate and postage. Thanks for sending me the history of the 182 Infantry Regiment--very interesting reading.

I wrote to Ivan Horst and got a letter back from him. You wouldn't believe it but he was my Company Commander on Cebu and Japan. I talked to him on the phone last night and he remembered me. He said in all the years since his discharge he did not know of the A.D.V.A. until he recently saw an article about the June reunion in the American Legion Magazine. He wrote and I quote--"I am very happy that after all these years I am once again in contact with some wonderful people".

I am coming to the reunion and plan on being there from the 8th thru the 12th. See you there.

Sincerely,
William K. "Bill" Maddox[REDACTED]
Portland, TX 78374

Ed note; In a previous issue Bill was placed in the 132 Infantry--that line should have read--182 Infantry Regiment. Sorry about that.

A Co. 3/21 196 LIB

Dear sirs;

Please find enclosed a money order to bring my dues up to date.

I want to apologize for letting my membership expire and hope this will get me back in good standing.

I was a line - doggie with A Co, 3/21 196 LIB. Americal Division in the Que Son Valley 68-69.

Would like ya'll to remember 2 fallen comrades from my platoon, Chris Beebler and D., J. Lipetzsky - KIA '69 near Tam Ky SVN.

There parents were never told by the Army how they really died. The men that know have never forgiven themselves for letting it happen. To quote my best friend and fellow "Gimlet", "We still carry the Cross".

Dan Dinklage & Jerry Feldman

11 LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE

Brother William Dunphy;

I learned of the Americal Division Veterans Association and your name and address, while reading a book about Vietnam. After a quick call to directory assistance I was talking to you.

Along with the application you sent the Jan-Feb issue of the Americal Newsletter. I am thoroughly impressed with the Newsletter and realize this is a high caliber, first class veterans organization.

I am proud to have served my country in combat while in the Americal Division. Please accept my check for a paid-up Life Membership in The Americal Division Veterans Association.

Fraternally,
Michael F. Browning

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

MAY - JUNE 1988

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

164 INFANTRY

Dear National Commander Chase;

I will not be attending the reunion in 1988 because it is too far away. I am a heart patient under a doctor's care.

I am very opposed to the Military sharing our name. Americal stands for Americans in New Caledonia.

My proof of eligibility 13 Oct 42 and the 164 Infantry. I retired as a Platoon Sgt. I was really 1/Sgt but didn't hold that position long enough to retire in grade thanks to Mr. McNamara.

I am very proud of my military days. My uniform has shrunk as it is now a little bit tight.

Thank you,
Lyle P. Aljets

164 INFANTRY

Dr. Mr. Dunphy;

Received your letter, and will answer it at this time. As for the note, yes, I am a full brother to George E. Aljets. In fact he was my Platoon Sgt. His Platoon was in the 1st wave to hit the beach (Guadalcanal) for the U.S. Army.

Being a brave kid, age 20, I was anxious to be one of the first ashore. Well, I sure got a lot smarter! That was Friday October 13, 1942--just before daybreak and by that night I had gained a lot of smarts.

I also recall the 182 Infantry coming ashore and how glad we were to see help arriving. I returned from the Canal with a member of A Co. 182 Infantry. I believe his name was Perquett--he lost an eye, a real nice guy.

I put in 22 years, 8 months in the ND National Guard and was recalled for Korea and during the Berlin crisis. I received a retirement dated 25 Dec 81. Service in the National Guard has not been all that bad--the privileges and retirement pay sure helps.

I have a Trophy case of awards, medals and papers and have it all sealed up. I do have a copy of a citation given to the 164 Infantry by Gen. Hodge of which I am very proud. Gen. Vandergrift also issued the 164 a Presidential Unit Citation. Gen. Vandergrift was thought more highly of by the 164 than was Gen. Hodge.

Thank you very much and I will be looking forward to receiving my membership card from the Americal Division Veterans Association. I still think World War II should have been the end of the Division.

Thank you,
Lyle P. Aljets

132 INFANTRY

Dear Sirs;

Enclosed please find check and service papers for membership in the Americal Division Veterans Association.

I will consider it an honor and a pleasure if you will accept me as a member.

Thank you,
Richard P. (Dick) Hintz

Adjutant's note; You are certainly accepted--welcome to the Americal family.

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

182 INFANTRY

Dear Commander;

It has been a long time since I have received a Newsletter from the Americal Division Veterans Association.

I know some members have already been notified about the coming event in June as I talked with Charlie Clevesy of Haverhill about going to the Convention. Am wondering why I am not on the mailing list--my life membership is paid up.

Thank you and I will be looking forward to hearing from someone in Headquarters.

Robert M. Thurston

Bob--the reason that the Newsletters have not been reaching you is that you have moved several times and did not let Headquarters know of your new address. Your latest address is now recorded so there shouldn't be any further problems.

1

3 INFANTRY 11 LIB

Mr. Dunphy;

Thank you for the information requested. As I had indicated in our conversation I was a member of the 11th Light Infantry Brigade, 4th Bn 3rd Infantry (Old Guard).

I was first assigned to that unit in September of 1966 right after it was activated at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. I was with B Company. I remained a member of that unit until the first of December 1967 when I was reassigned to U.S. Army Command Thailand. I along with several hundred other members of the Brigade were scattered about Thailand. I was assigned to the 91st Engineers located in Northeast Thailand on the Mekong River at the border of Laos. There we remained. I was there until my ETS 20 May 68. Therefore my last duty assignment was with them. While assigned to that unit I was promoted from my rank of SP4 with a MOS of 11B20 to the rank of SP5 with a MOD4S of 64B40. I understand that the 11 LIB did not become a part of the 23rd Infantry (Americal) until Jan/Feb of 1968.

I am enclosing this short letter with a completed application form a copy of my DD 214, and my discharge papers as requested.

Thanks again,
Wayne L. Brown

CO. H 164 INFANTRY

Dear Sir;

Enclosed is my check for joining the A.D.V.A. also a copy of my two discharges. I reenlisted in Japan.

My service was from 5-19-43 to 5-4-47 but my time in the Americal Division was from April 1944 when I came in as a replacement on Bougainville until 11-4-45 when I reenlisted for 18 months.

All my time in the Americal was in Co H 2nd Bn. 164th Infantry. I have had a couple of mail contacts with Hy Forman. I got my application through him.

Sincerely,
Joe D. Feeler

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

COMPANY H 182 INFANTRY

Dear Mr. Dunphy;

Glad to receive a nice letter from you and please find enclosed my payment for a Life Membership.

Company H, 182 Infantry was a good outfit. The men were really good to each other.

We came up from Camp Croft to Camp Edwards to help to bring the unit up to strength as they were leaving for overseas at the beginning of the war. We left Brooklyn Army Base on the Santa Elena. I served with H Company in Australia, New Caledonia and Guadalcanal. Left for home from the Fiji Islands and was discharged from Harmon General Hospital in Longview, Texas. So take care and say hello to all the gang.

Sincerely,
Daniel Masterpole

H COMPANY 182 INFANTRY

Gentlemen;

Please send me a decal for my car window. Payment enclosed.

Also my brother

Lafayette G. Currier

North Reading, MA 01864
is now at his home and I know he would appreciate any cards from his friends. He is unable to get out. We both served with Company H, 182 Infantry.

Lincoln E. Currier

132 INFANTRY

Dear Bill;

I have been wanting to get back to you after receiving your letter of Oct. 8, 1987 but held off until I got results from the National Personnel Records Center. After much delay I finally received the Navy Unit Citation thanks to the reprint you sent from "Under the Southern Cross". I am enclosing a check for a copy of that book also my application for membership and my dues. Thank you very much in your help in the matter of the award.

Very Truly Yours,
Jerry J. Olson

Gentlemen;

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$125 for a Life Membership. I'm 49 so the extra \$25 is for whatever the Association chooses.

Sorry for being late but I have been on the move and my mail caught up with me 9 months late.

Sincerely,
Ken Sears
Guam

P.S. Keep up the valuable info on that Fonda bitch!

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

121 MEDICAL BATTALION

Dear Mr. Dunphy;

I would like to thank you for the items you sent to me. I also hope the donation I sent helps the Museum Fund. Thanks again.

Sincerely,
Jacob Krok

COMPANY C 164 INFANTRY

Dear Bill;

Enclosed is my check to cover the cost of some decals for my vehicles. If this is not enough let me know and I'll send the difference UPS—it's faster than the Postal service. If there is a little left I'm sure you have a place for it.

I have been a Life Member for several years and your great Newsletter keeps me informed about the organizations progress.

Thanks for the fine job you have done for many years Bill, and thanks for the decals.

Sincerely,
Art Kountz

COMPANY I 132 INFANTRY

Mr. Dunphy;

I have been receiving the Newsletter and have just lately made contact with the regional chapter of our organization. I am now retired and intend to get more active. Thanks for your concern.

Yours in comradeship,
Fred Hitzman

Adjutant's note; Thanks for the check Fred. We will place it in the Museum Fund.

174 ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY

Gentlemen;

Please add my name to the roster of veterans of the Americal Division.

I was a member of the 174 AHC from March 1969 to March 1970.

I am still on active duty and quite proud to be wearing the Division patch on my right shoulder.

I am enclosing what I was told was the annual dues. I eagerly await your reply with more information about the association.

1 Sincerely,
Larry Whalen

BOOSTER

Thanks to Ralph and Aderina DiNicolantonio for the contribution to the Ad Book. Sorry your letter missed the cut-off date for the Ad Book

★ GUADALCANAL ★ SOLOMON ISLANDS

GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN WAR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION
An Up-date Report

We are pleased to report that the Foundation (headed by Dr. Robert Muehrcke and Joe Micek of the Americal Division, 132nd Infantry Regiment - Joe is also the Senior V.P. of the Guadalcanal Campaign Veterans organization), has set up a joint venture with the U.S. American Battle Monuments Commission for the construction of a very impressive Memorial on Hill 72, Skyline Drive, Guadalcanal.

The Memorial site gives an excellent view of the major battle areas of WW II; Red Beach, Henderson Field, Bloody Ridge, Tulagi, Iron Bottom Bay, Savo Island, Mount Austen, Lunga Point, and Cape Esperance.

The U.S. Commission of Fine Arts has approved the prototype design which is essentially a 24-foot high square granite column (an obelisk) for the hilltop setting. The Monument is similar to the one on Utah Beach, Normandy, France memorializing the American beach-head established "D-Day."

The base of the Monument will have polished granite directional strips imbedded in the exposed aggregate floor. The strips will be about 3-feet wide, 6-feet long and 3-inches thick and run in the direction of the points of interest. Information about a specific battle will be inscribed on the strip. Granite for the construction is being imported from Italy.

This Memorial will be very impressive as the site selected is outstanding and the view excellent. An all-weather road exists. Under a joint venture arrangements with the U.S. Battle Monuments Commission, perpetual care and maintenance will ensure the attractiveness of the Memorial.

The Foundation will also construct a series of smaller obelisks on the individual major battle sites plus plaques in the Henderson International Airport Terminal. This is the second phase of the overall American Memorial Project. Following completion of the Memorial on Hill 72, a series of photos will be published in this newsletter. Hopefully construction will be advanced far enough to be part of the 10th Year Anniversary Celebration activities recognizing the Solomon Islands as an independent Nation. Representatives from around the world will gather at Guadalcanal during August 1988; The foundation will have representatives present.

For those of you that may have revisited Guadalcanal, you probably saw the very impressive Military Memorial Park constructed on Mt. Austen by the Japanese in 1942 honoring all nations involved in the Battle for Guadalcanal. We believe our Memorial will be equally, if not more so, impressive due to the outstanding location.

Donations are being accepted to continue on with the extensive construction work. Please send to: GUADALCANAL-SOLOMON ISLANDS WAR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, P.O. BOX 56189, HARWOOD HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS 60656-0189.

Letters to the Editor

97 FIELD ARTILLERY

A little info regarding the article on Page 14 of the Mar-Apr Newsletter from Sam Brown of the 97 FA.

I recall them on Guadalcanal—in fact our then Battalion CO, Ltc Robert E. Moffett jokingly referred to them as the "Jackass Artillery". Lo and behold after the Guadalcanal campaign he was transferred to the 97th. Sam should remember him.

Moffett retired as a Brig. Gen. several years ago and now lives in the Miami, FL area. If Sam would like to contact Moffett I'll be glad to give him the address.

Thanks,
Jack Folmer
Hdq. Btry-247 FA

52 SIGNAL BATTALION

Dear Jim;

While Task Force 6814 was in New Caledonia buddies of our task force were in New Guinea and the New Hebrides. The 52nd Signal was one of the outfits that was in New Guinea.

Benjamin Biqusiak, 184 Main St., Maynard, MA 01754 was a member of the 52 Sig Bn and is anxious to find out when his outfit is having a reunion as he has not heard from any of his buddies.

Possibly a note in the Americal Newsletter will bring results. Many thanks.

Sincerely,
William G. Bertelli

754 TANK BATTALION

Sir;

According to the brief history that is mailed out to A.D.V.A. members the 754 Tank Battalion not mentioned as being part of the Americal division when it was formed on New Caledonia. I ask you to correct the records because the 754th was part of the Americal when it was formed.

I was commissioned in Noumea am now a ships Captain.

Sincerely,
Alfred Guttag

Ed Note; Thanks for your note Al. According to the official records the 754 Tank Bn was never exactly part of the Americal. The 754th was part of Task Force 6814 and when the Americal was formed the 754th was attached to the Americal.

According to 'Order of Battle' by Stanton the 754 Tank Battalion was 'born' at Pine Camp, New York 1 Jun 41, left New York POE 23 Jan 42 -- New Caledonia 12 Mar 42--Guadalcanal 14 Aug 43 (Co 9 arr Guad 4 May 43)--Bougainville 1 Jan 44-- Philippines 9 Jan 45 (attached Americal Division 24 May 42-3 Apr 43)

Members of 754 Tank are eligible to join A.D.V.A. because it was a part of 6814 and was attached to the Americal at one time.

The 754 Tank Bn also served in Korea. Hope this clears up any problems. If I can be of any further help just drop me a line. Jim



AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

P. O. BOX 1381

BOSTON, MASS. 02104

U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
BOSTON, MASS. 02104
PERMIT NO. 58746

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mr. John DeGroot
[REDACTED]
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

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: _____

(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)