

★ GUADALCANAL

★ NORTHERN SOLOMONS

★ LEYTE

★ SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

★ VIETNAM



FOUNDED 1945

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1993

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

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: JAMES C. BUCKLE
VIETNAM EDITOR: DAVID L. RECOB

Published Bi-Monthly

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



1993 NATIONAL OFFICERS 1994

NATIONAL COMMANDER

John DeGroot
[REDACTED]
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER
William K. Maddox
[REDACTED]
Portland, TX 78374

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER
Stephen N. Dennison
[REDACTED]
Pittsburgh, PA 15227

NATIONAL FINANCE OFFICER
Bernard C. Chase
[REDACTED]
South Yarmouth, MA 02664

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

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
James C. Buckle - Chairman
Kenneth R. Turner
Bernard J. Carroll
Peter J. Messina
Roland L. Castronova
David L. Recob
Gary L. Noller
Hugh J. Murnaghan
Alfred R. Doig
Ronald R. Ellis
James J. Flynn

CHAPTER COMMANDERS

William J. McLaughlin Cape Cod Chapter
Stephen Dennison Eastern Regional Chapter
Thomas P. McQuade South-East Chapter
Ernest B. Carlson South Mid-West Chapter
Rush J. Propper Great Lakes Chapter
Lewis C. Turner Far West Chapter
Ronald L. Ward Central Mid-West Chapter
Lloyd J. Morrell North-West Chapter

A by-law change, approved by a National
Ballot, now makes Chapter Commanders
members of the Executive Council.

AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

James C. Buckle
[REDACTED]
Wakefield, MA 01880

Telephone [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

VIETNAM EDITOR

David L. Recob
[REDACTED]
Topeka, KS 66611-2132

Telephone [REDACTED]

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

I will start out this Commander's Message with a welcome to all members who have recently joined us. May your association with the A.D.V.A. be as meaningful and enjoyable as mine has been. I thank all of the membership, from all over this great country of ours, for helping out with this most important project---our on-going membership drive.

My thanks to William McLaughlin, Chairman of the Relocation Committee, that has been successful in finding a new home for the Americal Museum, and also PNC Alfred Doig, PNC Bernard Chase and PNC Kenneth Turner for their assistance on the committee. I am sure that under the guidance and watchful eyes of this committee the move will go smoothly. I do hope that the A. D. V. A. will be able to cooperate with the U. S. Army when they build the Army Museum in the D.C. area, so that the Americal Division's name will be perpetuated.

Once more, let me appeal to all members to continue their efforts to increase our membership. Send our National Adjutant, Bernard Chase, the address of that buddy who is reluctant to join. He will send them a copy of the Americal Newsletter and an informative brochure. His address is in the preceding column.

Send your copy of orders to Jay Roth, who is doing double duty, helping to sort through all of the information we get from those orders and helping to run our National Computer Bulletin Board. His address is: 804 Sunstone St., Westlake Village, CA 91362.

John "Dutch" DeGroot
National Commander

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

MONTHLY A.D.V.A. MEETINGS

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

January 8, 1994
Americal Museum Fort Devens, MA
General Meeting 1:00 P.M.

TAPS TAPS TAPS

Herbert C. Brown
182 Infantry C Co.
Leominster, MA
February 28, 1992

Andrew B. Pung
182 Infantry
Franklin, ME
September 10, 1993

Leon P. Granacki
Division Headquarters
Chicago, MA
July 3, 1993

Paul Demene
Associate Member
Noumea, New Caledonia
October 6, 1993

HAVE YOU CALLED THAT BUDDY YET?

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Alfonse T. Barbieri
Task Force 6814
Woodbury, NJ
Malcolm S. Cate Jr.
26 Sig
Waltham, MA
Woodrow H. Collins
196 LIB B/2/1 Inf
Roper, NC
Marvin L. Haar
11 LIB B/3/1 Inf
Toledo, OH
David T. Jones
11 LIB B/1/20 B/4/24
Reynoldsburg, OH
Robert K. Radune
164 Infantry
McArthur, OH

John R. Wallace
18 Arty HHB/3
Rosemont, MN

NEW MEMBERS

Michael Aumenta
11 LIB /3/1 Inf
Morris Plains, NJ
#Robert Mushtare
Ted Barton
21 Recon
Palestine, TX
#Bill Maddox
Andrejs Bedelis
16 Avn Gr B/123 Avn
Fayetteville, NC
#Bill Maddox
Virginia Blamire
Associate
Norfolk, VA
#Paul Santogeanis
Leroy J. Bourne
57 Eng A Co
Tewssbury, MA
#R. Castronova
Steve Broadway
198 LIB F Troop
Buffalo, NY
#R. Castronova
Neil A. Burke
11 LIB C/3/1 Inf
Annapolis, MD
#R. Castronova
Steve Cakanic
198 LIB
Green Lake, WI
#R. Castronova
Danny J. Davison
174 Avn Co 16 CBT Bn
Milton Freewater, OR
#R. Castronova
Albert M. Debrind
11 LIB Rcon/3/1 Inf
Plantation, FL
#R. Castronova
James B. Doyle Jr.
23 M.P.
Shelburne, VT
#Bill Maddox
Elmer W. Edwards
70 CA AAA
Reynoldsburg, OH
#Herbert Danner
Gary W. Eisenhower
11 LIB D/4/3 Inf
Freeport, IL
#Bob Castings
James C. Ellafriths
312 Evac Hosp
Atlanta, GA
#Jim Buckle
Joe Emma
82 Arty D/1/82
Voornees, NJ
#Joe Krisantis
Paul R. Flora
198 LIB C/1/52 Inf
Perry, IA
#R. Castronova
James C. Frank
7440 Avn Hq HHC
Concord, NC
#William Maddox
Anthony C. Galgano
182 Infantry D Co
Tarrytown, NY
#Jim Buckle
Blas Garcia
11 LIB
Bakersfield, CA
#R. Castronova
Ernest A. Garza
11 LIB D/1/20 Inf
Rockdale, TX
#R. Castronova
George J. Grant
101 QM E Co Ord
Effingham, NH
#Martin Lindon
Edwin N. Griffin
196 LIB C/D/4/31
Indianapolis, IN
#R. Castronova
Richard H. Ruh
11 LIB
San Luis Obispo, CA
#R. Castronova

NEW MEMBERS

Lee R. Gunton
198 LIB C/5/46 Inf
Pittsburgh, PA
#R. Castronova
Henry W. Herbert Jr.
164 Infantry E Co
Chauvin, LA
#Bill Maddox
James A. Hinkle
196 LIB
Spring Grove, PA
#Bernie Chase
Berry G. Jacobs
132 Infantry M Co
Garland, TX
#Bill Maddox
Everett H. Kandarian
110 Cav 208 CA (AA)
West Hartford, CT
#Bill McLaughlin-Tim
Richard Karras
11 LIB C/Med/6 SPT
Vinton, VA
#R. Castronova
Harold L. Klein
182 Infantry E Co
Marietta, OH
#Jim Buckle
Normand LeBlanc
101 Med Bn Band
Dewey, AZ
#John L. O'Neil
Richard Leonard
11 LIB C/3/18 Arty
Waupun, WI
#Bill Maddox
Kelly McHugh
16 Avn 14 Avn 71 AHC
San Ramon, CA
#John DeGroot
Stanley J. Mitoraj
198 LIB D/2/1 Inf
Brandenburg, KY
#Bob Kasting
Walter P. Morse
26 Sig
Wellesley, MA
#Earl Cook
Frank D. Mossman
26 Eng Bn A Co
Crestwood, IL
#Bob Kasting
Charles B. Newell
11 LIB B/3/1 Inf
McDonough, GA
#R. Castronova
Albert C. Peak
182 Infantry
Springfield, MO
#Odes W. Smith
Robert E. Richardson
198 LIB D/1/6 Inf
Swarthmore, PA
#Joe Chin
Nick Santiago
65 Inf A-G Co Korea
Rochester, NY
#R. Castronova

CHAPTER NEWS

ARTHUR R. WOOD CHAPTER
SOUTH-EAST CHAPTER
AL, FL, GA, NC, SC, TN

COMMANDER
PNC Thomas McQuade
Nalcrest, FL 33856

SEC/TREAS
Elmer E. Matola
Hernando, FL 34442

There is a very special Memorial Monument with the A.D.V.A. shield and inscription commemorating all those comrades that have served their country under the banner of the Americal.

It was with diligent effort of the Past Regional Commander Ed Heartquist that the funds were procured from the National A.D.V.A. to finance the Memorial. We 'Thank You' Ed and also the National Headquarters.

Now----! we have, as you probably have read, a project underway for two benches and landscaping to be placed at the Memorial. These benches will serve a number of functions. A place to rest and meditate, to beautify with landscaping, and to bring back the memories of great friends and how much they mean to us.

To make this project successful we humbly ask for a donation of a few bucks from the membership, especially the South East Chapter. To put this in motion we have already received a few very generous donations from our Comrades. We need a few more to open up their hearts and wallets for a good cause.

We have a Holiday Season coming up to remind us to be in Peace and have Good Will to all our neighbors. The thought of our Comrades celebrating the coming New Year with that in mind brings us to say --- "Have a Happy, Prosperous and most of all a Healthy Year to come."

Yours in Comradeship,
Elmer E. Matola
Secretary/Treasurer

FAR WEST REGIONAL CHAPTER
AZ, CA, CO, HI, NV, UT, NM

Regional Commander
Lewis Turner
[REDACTED]
Oroville, CA 95966

Sec/Treas
Gino Massagli
[REDACTED]
Eureka, CA 95501

Sergeant-at-Arms Howard W. Walker
Chaplain Herbert A. Holt

I am very happy to report that the Far West Chapter Reunion that was held in Las Vegas was a tremendous success. We have sixty-four (64) members and wives attending. A great time was had by all. You should join us next year!

My correct telephone number is: [REDACTED]

SEASONS GREETINGS TO ALL THE A.D.V.A.

Lewis Turner
Commander

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR CHAPTER DUES?

OUR NEW NATIONAL PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN
Rev. William T. Elliott

21 RECON TROOP

I would appreciate contact with any former member of the 21st Recon Troop. (Eyes and ears of the Americal Division).

Having turned eighteen, I joined the 21st in October 1942 in New Caledonia. My outfit then left for Bougainville, Solomons Islands. Later, my unit was involved in beachheads on Leyte and Cebu, Philippines Islands. Eventually, we ended up involved in the occupation of Japan.

I did make contact with a member whom I believe lives in Illinois. I sent him a few pictures which were taken on Bougainville. Since then I have not received a letter or the return of my pictures. I misplaced his original letter, consequently, I do not know his address.

I would like to hear from him or any other members of 21st Recon Troop. Write:

Wallace D. Kuykendall
[REDACTED]
Oceanside, CA 92057

MORE MISINFORMATION

The following appeared in the Fort Myers News-Press and was sent in by Michele Lombardo former member of H Company, 182 Infantry.

Question: I've noticed that retired Gen. Colin Powell carries a patch of a division I was in during World War II. Did he serve in AMERICAL Division during the Vietnam War?

Answer: Yes. Powell, 56, wears the AMERICAL Division on his right shoulder - its placement signifies his combat unit. Gen. Douglas MacArthur formed the AMERICAL unit in May of 1942 from U.S. troops on the Pacific island of New Caledonia.

WHAT IS WRONG WITH THIS STATEMENT?

The Americal always suffered from lack of publicity and when we did get it, they usually spelled our name wrong. I ask every member to write to the publication that makes these errors and try to get the correct information printed. It does work.

A SONG HONORING THE INFANTRYMAN
OF THE U. S. ARMY

(Author unknown but believed to be a member of Co. 'B' 132 Infantry Regiment)

Hail to the king of the highway
As the backbone of the Army moves out
At our country's call to arms
And the first to war's alarms
To fight and put the enemy to rout
The dashing, flashing, smashing snarling doughboys
Who for pacifism never give a damn
Here's to the king of the highway
And here's to the sons of Uncle Sam.

I believe that this poem was dedicated to all the sand pounding, gravel crunching, and mud slogging dog faces who served his country in war and peace.

Eugene Koeppel
Co. B 131 Infantry and Co. B 132 Infantry

SOUTH MID WEST CHAPTER

Chapter Commander Ernest B. Carlson
[REDACTED]
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
Tel- [REDACTED]

Secretary/Treasurer Malcolm P. East
[REDACTED]
Lumberton, TX 77656
Tel- [REDACTED]

Sergeant-at-Arms Jesse J. Mendoza

COAST WATCHERS

Do any of you 'Old Guard' remember the Coast Watchers from Bougainville and Leyte?

Alfred Mobley and I were talking and we vaguely remember two of them, with their group, going through D Company lines at one time or other. I also remember a Mr. Meyers that we met at Ormac, on Leyte in the P.I.'s. The article in the last Newsletter brought back a memory or two!

This Christmas will mark the 50th Anniversary of our landing on that *Tropical Paradise* called Bougainville!

I am certain that their will never be a monument placed at the site of that Million Dollar Tree on Hill 260, overlooking the Torokina River, where so many men and boys gave their lives. Nor will there ever be one at the base of the "Fatherly" volcano, Mt. Bagana, that shook us to sleep every night for thirteen months.

I would certainly like for a lot more Vietnam vets to come out and join us! The 'Taps' list in the Newsletter goes on and on with the 'Old Guard' taking up most of the space. I run across a Vietnam vet occasionally and a few are interested in the A.D.V.A. but are leery of getting involved in a vet organization. We need to let them know we are there for them. Because, after all, we are all brothers, and in addition they will be replacing, the old-timers, all too soon!

The women are finally getting a little recognition. I am quite sure that most of us from all wars, can tell you the love, devotion, and above all the courage, the ladies have shown since the first battle ever fought. Someone once said, "behind every good man is a good woman." I say, "behind every soldier fights a good woman." Let's let them know how much we have owed them all these years.

If you are interested in helping to get a stamp printed to honor our POW's and MIA's contact:

Dudley Farquhar

[REDACTED]
Merrimac, MA 01860

Since this is the last Newsletter of 1993, we, of this Chapter, wish each and everyone of you, and all of your loved ones, a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a safe and healthful, rest of your lives.

Ernest B. Carlson
Chapter Commander

1994 NATIONAL CONVENTION 1994

THE PINES RESORT NEWYORK

WATCH YOUR MAIL FOR MORE INFORMATION

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

CHECK THE ADDRESS LABEL FOR YOUR DUES DATE

72 FIELD ARTILLERY

DO YOU KNOW THIS MAN?

Frank J. Sager was a member of the 72 F.A. when it was formed at Fort Bragg. After finishing basic at FARTC he boarded the Uruguay and disembarked at New Caledonia. Here he was assigned to Battery 'C' 246 Field Artillery Battalion and went on to Guadalcanal, Fiji, and then Bougainville. On Bougainville he served as a F.O. and was seriously wounded in the back and right hip in the battle for Hill 260. He was then hospitalized for almost a year. He did not accept a discharge but continued to serve on limited service until his discharge on 19 Sept 45.

Frank has not had any communication with his group since his evacuation from Bougainville. He too wants to find his buddies "before it is too late."

Please contact Frank at:

Frank J. Sager
Bld 2 Unit 1
[REDACTED]

Maynard, MA 01754
Tel. [REDACTED]

Sent in by Charles W. Young Jr. Americal Div Arty

HEADQUARTERS
XIV CORPS
A.P.O. 709

11 Jan 43

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO: Officers and Enlisted Men of the 57th Engineer Battalion, Americal Division.

1. Under provisions of AR 600-55, I personally and officially command the Officers and enlisted men of the 57th Engineer Battalion, Americal Division, for meritorious and conspicuous service during recent operations against the enemy.

2. But for your help, the recent operations against the enemy would have not been possible.

3. Your accomplishments included, among other things, blazing roads through the jungles and building bridges over the Matanikau River. This was done with limited and inadequate equipment. Your battalion at the same time operated with seventy-three (73) men under its authorized strength. Your work was all the more remarkable because it was done under adverse conditions of intense heat, heavy tropical rain storms and often subjected to harassing hostile fire. It demanded ingenuity, resourcefulness, determination and courage of the highest order on the part of every officer and enlisted man.

Enclosed

A.M. PATCH
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding

Copy to T/Sgt Henry H. Thomas

Ed Note: This copy of the Commendation was sent in by Mrs. Henry H. Thomas. Mrs. Thomas would like to see more stories on the 57th Engineers in the Newsletter. How about it Engineers--I need your help on that.

NOW HEAR THIS!

Congratulations on another excellent issue of the Newsletter. On that picture of the "tourists" on Guadalcanal in 1942 I would say that the Secretary of the Navy, Frank Knox, had his helmet on backwards. 'Lightin' Joe Collins was also caught biting his nails, but that was common in that fight.

Re: the poem "Old Age is Hell" I think it would have been better off left on the wall of the old folks home by Al Hudon. It is not only demeaning, it's disgusting. I don't know what kind of seniors you've got up that way, but it certainly doesn't describe our gang down here on Cape Cod, (who) are part way into our eighth decade.

Regards,
Bill McLaughlin

Ed Note: Glad to hear that our Seniors on Cape Cod are in such good shape especially whereas Frances and I have had a new home built on the Cape and are in the process of moving there. However, I will be sure to bring one thing with me and that is a sense of humor--that seems to be lacking.

AMERICAL PICNIC SEPTEMBER 11, 1993

The Annual Americal Picnic was held again this year at the Americal Museum, Fort Devens, MA. As you can see from the picture there was a very good turn-out. The weather cooperated and the picnic run until late in the afternoon.



Thanks to PNC Bernie Chase for getting it organized.

NATIONAL ORDER OF BATTLEFIELD COMMISSIONS

We are trying to locate all men, WWII, Korea and Vietnam, who on the field of battle against an armed enemy, received a COMMISSION from enlisted or Warrant status to commission status. It may be you or someone you know. Contact:

John Angier
[REDACTED]

St. Augustine, FL 32084

Tel. [REDACTED]

WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED READING YOUR NEWSLETTER
PASS IT ON TO ANOTHER VETERAN

THE AMERICAL WAS THERE!

The Admiral Nimitz Museum and the local radio station, KNAF-AM and KNAF-FM sponsored the First Annual 4th of July Pacific War Veterans Parade in Fredericksburg, Texas.

A few members of the South Mid-West Chapter put together a small Float for the Americal. Alfred Mobley and Chapter Commander Ernest Carlson, both former members of D Company, 182 Infantry, constructed the Float on a 17 1/2 foot trailer provided by Jim Strackbein, 3/3/16 Artillery-Vietnam. Heins Chevrolet loaned us a new pick-up and John Sanchez did a great job as our driver. Malcolm East, 723 Maint-Vietnam, and his wife Beverly, came up from Lumberton, TX to ride on the Float and they were joined by Joe Balcazar, 132 Infantry. Joe Balcazar was recognized as being the only Guadalcanal veteran in attendance.



All in all, a lot more people now know a little about the Americal Division.

Ernest B. Carlson
Commander
South Mid-West Chapter

THANKS FROM A VIETNAM VETERAN

I'm a "pushing - 50" proud Viet vet. Although I'm in great shape, bruises take longer to heal, memory and sight are shorter, I'm somewhat less tolerant of distractions, and it takes a lot longer for my bones to "thaw" each morning. I can only imagine the courage summoned by WWII vets who continue to smile and get the job done in spite of health problems. Their example will remain etched within me, a legacy to spur me onward.

When I feel I don't have another ounce of energy available, the thought of a role model like Joe Feeler and hundreds of other guys like him, and of the special ladies who contribute so unselfishly, motivate me to go another mile.

Though I may occasionally grumble: "darn it WWII, do you have to be so brave, you're a tough act to follow." I'll do my best to honor the standards of excellence you continue to set. I sincerely thank you for sharing the stuff you're made of, as you proceed to make veterans lives more rewarding and Americal a great family.

"Duster" Heath

HONOR AND COURAGE

I just won a battle with Walmarts Supercenter here in Berryville, AK. It took a letter to Washington to do it but after a six months battle, I finally won.

The Battle? I noticed that Walmarts had the American Flag displayed at the left side of their Supercenter store and the Arkansas Flag in the place of honor--or on the right side of the store. After consulting with the manager here in Berryville, to no avail, and then writing to Walmarts main office in Bentonville, Arkansas, I received the same answer that they were right and they sent a pamphlet, that I already had, with the information they interpreted as showing that the Flag was being displayed correctly.

I then wrote to Washington about this matter and received no answer. But lo and behold--on my last visit to the Supercenter I noticed that the Flag--The Colors--Old Glory--was displayed to the right as I wanted. It was a new grand old Flag and was really beautiful there.

I haven't received anything from anyone saying that I was right but I am happy to say that the Colors are displayed correctly now as a result of my actions.

Another case in Dallas--last week I was on Hampton Boulevard going to see my brother-in-law and I noticed an American Flag on display that was torn and ragged. It was in a place where it could be seen by everyone that passed along this main boulevard. The Flag was a mess and I couldn't help but be hurt seeing it there. I mentioned to my wife that it should be taken down and replaced. It kept bothering me and after traveling about three miles I was advised by my wife to "do something about it!" I then turned around and went back to speak to the owner and tell him what was wrong. He was very apologetic and said he knew the condition of the Flag and was intending to replace it. He promised to do it before evening.

To conclude--it's a shame that people treat our Flag the way they do. They have good intentions when displaying the Colors but forget, or never bother to read, the correct way to display the Flag.

Nothing makes me madder, now that I'm home from the wars, than to see our beautiful National Colors displayed improperly. I have over a thousand buddies that have died so that the Flag could fly over this country---everywhere.

I would like to start a campaign and ask all Veterans everywhere, to take notice, and make sure that our Flag is displayed and displayed correctly.

Honor and Courage,
Ray E. Poynter 1Sgt Ret

(Ray has earned the privilege of speaking out for the Flag. He defended it in World II, Korea, and during two tours in Vietnam. Always--Infantry, Airborne, Air Assault, or Airmobile.)

DON'T FORGET THE 1994 NATIONAL CONVENTION
THE PINES RESORT NEW YORK
JUNE 9, 10, 11, 12, 1994

721 ORDNANCE LIGHT MAINTENANCE

DO YOU KNOW THIS MAN?

I am searching for verification of the service on Cebu, Philippines, in 1944-45 of my husband's brother--

THOMAS RUSSELL FRY ASN 37493282

If you have any information please contact:

Mrs. Harley Fry

Wichita, KS 67209-1403

DO YOU KNOW THIS MAN

132 Infantry 182 Infantry 164 Infantry

I am searching for information on my father who served with the Americal Division during World War and during its tour on Guadalcanal.

My father passed away on 12 March 66 when I was twelve years old and my information on him is very slim.

His name was ALFRED T. JONES ASN 17021509 and he went into the Army at Camp Robinson, AR 11 July 41. He served as an Infantryman and claimed to have been with the first Infantry elements of the Americal to land on Guadalcanal. If you have information contact:

Alan T. Jones

Milwaukee, WI 53210

Telephone [REDACTED]

Please call after 4:00 P.M.

AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS TO VISIT WEST POINT



DON'T MISS THIS CHANCE OF A LIFETIME

ATTENTION AMERICAL MEMBERS
Are you a computer operator?

Would you be interested in a service that gives you the opportunity to contact Americal veterans throughout the nation on a limited basis for \$5.95 per month?

Would you like to hear about local reunions on a daily basis? Hear about vets in your neighborhood, from vets talking to vets about issues that are important to vets?

Would you like to have a soapbox to voice your opinions and hear the views of other vets?

If so, join us on the National Videotex computer network. Call [REDACTED]. They are very user friendly and have accommodated the Americal Division Veterans with the granting of the only unit in the military with its own topic.

Just sign up and we will be happy to help you get started. I guarantee that if you do, you will be amazed and pleased with the results.

NATIONAL VIDEOTEX NETWORK #'S

Spencer Baba	(SBABA)	All Americal Members
Jay Roth	(JROTH)	
Charles Mankin	(CMANKIN)	
Dutch DeGroot	(DDEGROOT)	
Dave Recob	(DRECOB)	

For more info contact:

A. Jay Roth

[REDACTED]
Westlake Village, CA 91362

FROM YOUR SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

GREETINGS from South Texas. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each one of you who voted for me and also to thank the guys that have been bringing in new members. Keep up the good work!

There are guys out there looking to join our organization. PLEASE get those ads into your local newspapers. Most newspapers will run them as a public service.

May each member of the Americal Family have a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY, HEALTHY, AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

William K. "Bill" Maddox
Senior Vice Commander
Chairman - Membership

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

If you are moving, or planning a move, please notify this Headquarters as soon as possible. Our cost for return postage has skyrocketed and your help in reducing this cost will be greatly appreciated. Send your change of address to:

Adj. Bernard C. Chase

[REDACTED]
So. Yarmouth, MA 02664

James C. Buckle

[REDACTED]
Wakefield, MA 01880

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

THE PAYROLL GOT THROUGH

The "scenic" highway to Carigara was a "highway" in name only. Not too well built to begin with, it had all but disappeared by 17 February 1945 from shelling, bombing, heavy convoys, tank treads and local fighting.

Upon leaving the relative flat of Ormac Valley, the road ascended Breakneck Ridge over a tortuous grade hanging on the edge of steep canyons; deuce-and-a-half axle-deep mud, not to mention driving past Japanese caves every 15 to 20 feet which told of the bitter fighting which had taken place only a short time before.

The view into the canyons was spectacular - if you happened to enjoy looking at the remains of trucks and tanks disabled during the fighting. For the first time in my life I would enjoy meeting an MP along the road instead of having the feeling that the world had stopped and there was no one left to tell me.

In mid-February 1945, the 164th Infantry, Americal Division, was engaged in, what General MacArthur Headquarters called, "mopping up" operations on Leyte, Philippine Islands.

The G-2 reports gave the picture of an enemy starved, short of weapons and low in morale while, in fact, their number exceeded 3,000 fully equipped, highly motivated, well-fed, uniformed personnel instilled with a "win-or-die for the Emperor" credo.

Into the grinder of northwestern Leyte went the jungle-trained veterans of Guadalcanal and Bougainville - from rain forest jungles onto open terrain and bare rock mountains devoid of cover.

The fighting went on day and night with a ferocity unexpected from a surrounded foe. Casualties mounted alarmingly from day-long attacks and night-long counter attacks. Over half of the Guadalcanal veterans became statistics within a month. To get nearer the action the Regimental HQ moved from Valencia, in Ormac Valley, to Palompon, on the west coast on 16 February 1945. Left in the rear area was the Regimental Personnel Section. Every available unit of the Regiment was engaged in combat with the enemy trying to close a circle around him to prevent infiltration of potential reinforcements.

On the day that Regimental HQ was displaced forward, a telex was delivered to the Personnel Section by a special messenger from Americal HQ.

There was no doubt the about the fact that someone in the War Department became excited when they received a letter from a Congressman. A son of one of the constituents of the Congressman had not been paid by the 164th Infantry: Pay the troops and reply by endorsement -- all to be accomplished within four days!

Except for the requirement that the deed be done, it was silly to pay the troops during combat and in a place where there was no way to spend the money. It was not unusual to postpone a payroll during combat situations and this postponement had been approved by the Regimental CO. But, then, a 19 year old draftee was not to be denied.

Goaded into action, the clerks of the Personnel Section began hammering out a partial payroll. Once completed, the rolls had to be processed by Division HQ, a mere 45 miles (as the crow flies) from Valencia to Carigara.

Too many times during the trip I recalled that the jeep I was driving had been deadlined when the motor pool had been called; the evidences of its use on Guadalcanal and Bougainville were all too clear. The "guard" assigned for the trip was on his way to a hospital with a broken foot.

At or near Pinamopoan, the Engineers had built a most remarkable causeway on a coral reef (much too far from shore to please me) which was washed out twice a day by the high tides. Convoys waited at each end for the tide to turn and then would follow the Engineers as they rebuild the dike and the bridges.

Finally after five hours of driving and two hours of waiting for the tide to change, Carigara and the Division Headquarters were reached. NO MONEY! "Go back to Tacloban - another 40 plus miles.

At the latter location the payroll was ready - in wood ammunition boxes nailed shut, thereby making it impossible to count. Back to Carigara, back over the causeway, back over Breakneck, back over Ormac Valley; and, on to Ormac to catch any kind of transportation available to Palompon. (The Valencia to Palompon road had been ambushed several times since this story began).

Luck was with us. An LST was ready to depart - but the jeep could not go along (it turned out that there would be no place to drive it anyway).

About fifteen mile out of Palompon a Japanese machine gunner thought the LST would make an excellent target and proceeded to place several bullets just above the water line. I thought it an excellent idea to transfer to a nearby PT for the rest of the journey - and did. The LST later arrived at Palompon quite full of water.

Company by Company, the 2nd Battalion was paid. Another LST took the crates of money and the paymaster to Abijoia where we arrived just in time to be machine gunned as the money filled crates were dropped onto the beach. Fortunately, the Japanese manning the gun were not very good shots and missed us and the noon chow line nearby.

After the 1st Battalion had been paid, and since I did not enjoy the prospects of sleeping on the beach, which had been fired upon, and since there was no known departure of a ship for Villaba, I decided to load up a couple of mache bags and take a hike, with my payroll funds, some 10 miles to Villaba.

The good news was that the 1st Recon had made a sweep up the beach from Palompon to Abijoia the day before (the 18th) and had killed 11 of the enemy.

The bad news was they had not continued on to Villaba which was my destination.

Figuring that a 10 mile hike would be a pleasant day's stroll, I set off with two canteens of water, a carbine and about \$20,000. The first problem to develop was a stream too wide to jump. A short walk along the bank resulted in spotting a dugout complete with paddle.

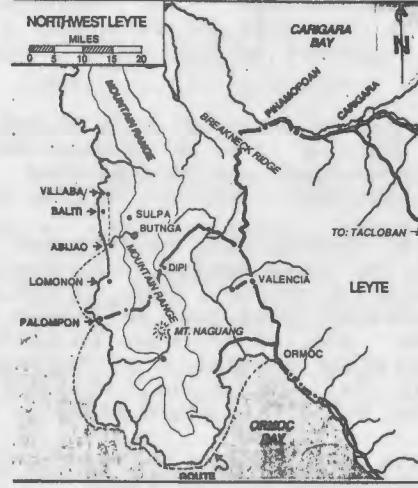
You guessed it. I had never rowed a boat before and the trip soon developed into a major amphibious landing. I made it just in time as my "navy" was sinking rapidly due to a crack in the bottom which I had not seen before.

FEATURE STORY CONCLUSION ON NEXT PAGE

FEATURE STORY

CONCLUSION:

About halfway to Villaba, I saw a deceased Japanese lying across my trail. Remembering that they always carried rice, I hurried toward the body and as I reached down to scoop up the delectable rice, I noted that it was moving - moving out of a hole where his neck had once met his head.



Villaba had its own version of greetings for new arrivals. The password I had given was not good enough for the young outpost and I had to "surrender" or be shot.

That night a battle-worn soldier shot off one of his toes and the bullet ricocheted through the corrugated iron wall about a foot from my head. The next night spent bullets came in through an east-facing window in the house to which I had changed from the previous night's experience.

The 3rd Battalion was paid. I will never forget watching K Company come off the line on the 21st. I had never seen troops as exhausted. Black spheres were where their eyes should have been. All they wanted to do was sleep, eat and get clean - but, they were paid! They were paid because a 29 year old figured that he was bigger than the Army - and, unfortunately he was.

When I had left Tacloban I had about \$60,000. A week later, when every man in the 164th had been paid, I sat at a table and counted our \$65,000 in cash. Almost to a man, all of the partial pay was being returned, plus "loose change" for Soldiers Saving Accounts.

I suggested to the boy from Iowa he write his daddy if he didn't like it, because I would not accept his Soldiers Saving deposit.

Later I was told that I had been the first "patrol" to go from Agijao to Villaba; that I had paddled my leaking dugout across schistosomissis flukes; that part of the next convoy over the Pinamopoan causeway had been washed out to sea; that a small band of Japanese infiltrators had crossed Breakneck road the day after my second trip over the grade; that I had an "overage" of \$500.00 when I returned the funds to the Finance Officer at Cagigara - a discrepancy settled several months later when the Division came up short a similar amount.

Mark Durley

(This story was carried in the World War II Times a while back and is copied with Marks' permission)

THANKS THANKS THANKS THANKS

I wish to thank all the people that received a copy of our survey, asking if they still wished to continue receiving the Americal Newsletter, and took the time to reply. The response was tremendous! The purpose of the survey was to reduce cost by eliminating the people who were no longer interested and were just disposing of the Newsletter.

It was indeed gratifying, to me, to receive so many compliments on the Newsletter and ask that I continue sending it to them. Many sent in contributions with their request. All the contributions that were received will be put into the Scholarship Fund.

Again, thank you for your support and for your many, many kind words. They were appreciated

Jim Buckle
Editor

DO YOU KNOW THIS MAN?

B COMPANY 1ST BATTALION 182 INFANTRY

I am trying to locate former comrades of my uncle, Pfc. Joseph Victor Cormier. He went overseas with B Company, 182 Infantry and saw action on Guadalcanal. He was killed-in-action on Bougainville on March 23, 1944 during the battle for Hill 260.

I am seeking information and documents from persons that were there and knew my uncle or would be willing to aid me in my search. I have interviewed one gentleman, Emery Boudreau. I have also talked with other members of the Americal and I have gained significant knowledge of their heroic efforts through the book, "Under the Southern Cross".

If you knew my uncle, Joseph Victor Cormier, or can help in any way, please write to:

Peter M. Yablonski
[REDACTED]
Lancaster, CA 93534
Tel. [REDACTED]

HOW ABOUT THIS!

CADETS TO CARRY DISABLED WEAPONS

Northfield, VT - Norwich University cadets will be carrying guns next year, but they won't need any bullets. University president Richard Schneider wants the cadets to bear arms at weekly military parades on campus. A college spokeswoman, Judy Clauson, said it is part of a plan to improve military training of cadets. She said the guns will have their firing pins removed or bolts welded shut. She said the guns will give the military parades a more professional look and that the school will borrow about 900 Army rifles from the Virginia Military Institute.

(Norwich is a source of officers for our Armed Forces and a great many of them become Infantry officers. Is their training so bad they can't be trusted with a rifle? If so, what a waste of tax payers' money.)

HEY -- YOU GUYS ARE GREAT!

In the last issue of the AMERICAL NEWSLETTER I ran a picture of the "Big Brass" gathered on Guadalcanal. I had noticed something wrong in the picture and offered a cigar to the writer of the first letter I received telling me what was wrong.

The following people either wrote or called:

Bernard Chase
Ray Poynter
Grover E. Clark
Harold E. Gray
David Recob
Samuel K. Brown
Harry Horsman
Tony Percoskie
Malcolm Cate
Leamon Parrish
John Dullea
William McLaughlin

I certainly hope that I have not missed anyone but if I have their letter is more than likely in the pile on my desk and I will get to it. Meanwhile, please accept my apologies.

I really enjoyed the letters and the calls and some of the answers (ad-lib) were very interesting. Some said I could keep the cigar because they didn't smoke and others said forget it. Of course someone had to remark - "that's what you would expect of a Navy man". Grover Clark had another idea, he said, "Secretary Knox not only has his hat on backwards but he is more than likely standing in the way of the chow line."

John Dullea called and stated that he was an M.P. that traveled with the group of VIPs that day and that may have been him standing in the background with the M.P. brassard on his arm.

Leamon Parrish called from South Carolina to say that he was there that day. He was Gen. Patch's driver. Leamon became the General's driver before the General left Camp Croft, South Carolina, to take over the Americal. He stayed with Gen. Patch through the European campaign and until the end of the war.

THE WINNER IS--now that is a big question. It was brought to my attention that declaring the first answer the winner was unfair because some members do not receive their Newsletter until maybe a week or more after the others. Now I am on the horns of a dilemma. After hours of talking to myself and several sleepless nights, the solution finally dawned me. I will send a check for ten (\$10.00) dollars to Elmer Matola, treasurer of the Southeast Chapter as a donation toward the bench they wish to buy. (See story under Chapter News.)

Again -- Thank you all for writing.

Jim

P.S. One of our members listed above, Harold Gray, is a former member of the 57th Engineers. In his letter he says, "Enjoy reading the Newsletter but there is not much news in it about the 57th Engineer Combat Battalion." This is the second 'request' this month for the 57th Engineers. How about some stories you Engineers?

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER

USS RACINE (LST-1191) DECOMMISSIONED

The USS Racine (LST-1191) was officially decommissioned at Long Beach Naval Station on October 2, 1993. Although the vessel is barely 20 years old, it is being taken out of service as part of the current drawdown in military strength.

The last deployment of the USS Racine was in 1992 to take part in the WW II 50th anniversary commemoration observances in the South Pacific. Members of the A.D.V.A. were guests of the Captain and crew of the ship during one of its stops, (New Caledonia) on the final tour of duty.



Several local A.D.V.A. members and family were able to attend the decommissioning ceremony. WW II veterans of the 182 Infantry were Jim Daly of Long Beach and Larry O'Boyle of Rancho Santa Margarita accompanied by his wife Gloria. (Gloria is a USMC WW II veteran.) Vietnam veterans from the 196 LIB were Steve Caballero of Long Beach accompanied by Laura and Andrew, Jerry McDonald of San Clemente, and Gary Noller of Albuquerque (formerly of Long Beach.)

The USS Racine is named for the city and county of Racine, Wisconsin. Several items from the ship including the ship's bell and silver service will be loaned to the City of Racine for display purposes.

Following the decommissioning ceremony the USS Racine was to be towed to Pearl Harbor to remain on call should the need for her arise again. A.D.V.A. would like to express its appreciation to the officers and crew of the USS Racine for its many years of fine service.

(Write-up by Executive Council member Gary L. Noller. Gary represented the ADVA invitation to the decommissioning.)

JESSE R. DROWLEY, SCHOLARSHIP
AMERICAL INFANTRY DIVISION MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Above is official name of the Americal Scholarship Fund. In the write-up on Page 6 of the September - October 1993 Jesse Drowley's first name was listed as James. The proof reader (me) was asleep on that one. Mrs. Drowley wrote to call the error to my attention. She did say that her grandson, James, felt honored because he thought the Scholarship was named after him.

JESSE R. DROWLEY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

John M. Barry Jr.
In memory of his father

Fred W. Weaver

In memory of their husbands

Mrs. Kenneth A. Smith
Mrs. Joseph A. Longergan
Mrs. Mildred Clark
Mrs. Anne M. Knasas
Mrs. John S. Franklin
Mrs. Sarah A. Dunn
Mrs. Eleanor T. Evans
Mrs. Emily C. Quirk
Mrs. Mary I. Lawrence
Mrs. Jean L. Appel
Mrs. Leslie F. White
Mrs. Virginia M. Starck
Mrs. Margaret H. Donohue

DO YOU KNOW THIS MAN?

B COMPANY 1ST BATTALION 182 INFANTRY

I am trying to locate former comrades of my uncle, Pfc. Joseph Victor Cormier. He went overseas with B Company, 182 Infantry and saw action on Guadalcanal. He was killed-in-action on Bougainville on March 23, 1944 during the battle for Hill 260.

I am seeking information and documents from persons that were there and knew my uncle or would be willing to aid me in my search. I have interviewed one gentleman, Emery Boudreau. I have also talked with other members of the Americal and I have gained significant knowledge of their heroic efforts through the book, "Under the Sothern Cross"

If you knew my uncle, Joseph Victor Cormier, or can help in any way, please write to:

Peter M. Yablonski
[REDACTED]
Lancaster, CA 93534
Tel. [REDACTED]

164 INFANTRY

In October 1992, the 164th Infantry Regimental Flag with battle streamers was retired at Henderson Field, Guadalcanal to fight no more.

Very soon the names of the men that followed that flag into battle will be forgotten.

To preserve some evidence of the men who served in the 164th Infantry Regiment (Rifle), a Memorial Committee is planning on listing the names of the individuals that served in the 164th Infantry from February 10, 1941 to August 10, 1945. A star or special designation will be placed by the names of those (KIA) killed in action.

The Memorial will be located in on either side of the Chapel in the Veteran's Cemetery, Mandon, ND.

Your help is needed in preparing a roster. Please send your serial number, dates of service, and rank to: [REDACTED] Don Robinson

Bismarck, ND 58501

MR. AND MRS. JOE FEELER

Below is a picture of Joe Feeler and his wife Esther that was taken at the recent Reunion of the Far West Chapter.



Joe stepped down as Commander of the Far West Chapter due to health problems. He has done a tremendous job in revitalizing the Far West Chapter. His wife, Esther, deserves a great deal of credit also. She is his right hand.

Our thanks to you Mr. & Mrs. Feeler for your help in making the A.D.V.A a success.

FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE

ASSOCIATION PATCH (small)	\$1.00
ASSOCIATION PATCH (large)	3.00
AMERICAL PATCH (dress blue)	1.00
AMERICAL PATCH (field uniform)	1.50
AMERICAN PATCH DECAL	1.50
AMERICAN FLAG PATCH	1.00
AMERICAN CAR PLATE	6.00
AMERICAN PIN SHIELD (large)	2.50
AMERICAL DIVISION CREST	3.00
AMERICAL PATCH DECAL	1.50
DECAL CAR WINDOW	1.00
LAPEL PIN (ASSOCIATION)	2.50
TIE BAR W/SHIELD	5.00
MINATURE COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE (lapel)	2.50
MINATURE COMBAT MEDIC BADGE (lapel)	2.50
182 INFANTRY LAPEL PIN (MINATURE)	2.50
UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS (Post Paid) (American History) (Soft Cover)	12.00
OVERSEAS HAT W/PLASTIC COVER (Size 6 1/4 - 6 1/2 Only)	22.00
CAP, BASEBALL TYPE W/PATCH	6.00
AMERICAL T-SHIRTS S-M-L (White)	10.00
AMERICAL T-SHIRTS XL-XXL (White)	12.00
(Specify WW II or Viet on above)	
AMERICAL T-SHIRTS (Viet-Black) M-L	10.00
AMERICAL T-SHIRTS (Viet-Black) EX-XXL	12.00

Send order to: Kenneth Turner

[REDACTED]
Wakefield, MA 01880
Or call [REDACTED]

NOTE: Mailing charge will be added to above prices.

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

VIETNAM

NEWS

NETWORK

ATTENTION IS YOUR NAME HERE ATTENTION

The following names men will be dropped after this issue of the Americal Newsletter. If you have a problem with this call the Adjutant IMMEDIATELY.

Daniel S. Adamski
Mark A. Anderson
Jerry D. Bodine
Vincent A. Cassino
Maynard B. Crouse
Luis Hernandez
Robert E. Moore
Joseph A. O'Shea
Lloyd A. Perry
Dennis G. Regenye
Amby S. Sanchez
Paul S. Spilberg
John S. Tuma Jr.
Floyd L. Whiteman
David J. Wiedel
Patrick Yochim

Carl F. Ahland
Jon Bales
Thomas P. Burns
Dennis Cote
Richard A. Haas
Richard A. LeBlanc
James M. Parker
James T. Price
Warren I. Risner
Steven G. Schaefer
Stephen L. Strahan
Jimmy E. Vail
William J. Whitney
David L. Wifall

CONTACT
Adj. Bernard C. Chase

South Yarmouth, MA 02664

ANOTHER GENERAL OFFICER WHO SERVED IN THE
AMERICAL DIVISION

To Whom It May Concern:

In reference to page 7, May-Jun 1993 Newsletter, subject Officers of General Officer rank who served in the Americal division, I have one more name to add:

MGen Thomas Leitner

who was a Major in Division Artillery during the Vietnam war.

He went on to become the Commanding General, Army Security Command, an agency that conducts foreign military sales to friendly foreign countries and international agencies.

Greg Straub
Cleona, PA

BOOK REVIEWS

Some new books have been written by former members of the Americal division, and have been read by this Editor, and are reported for the information of the membership who might want to procure copies for themselves.

"SHADOW OF DEATH" W. Paul Hughes. Published by: Bridge Publishing Inc., [REDACTED], South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

With a beautiful foreword by Ron DiCianni, a renowned book cover artist who preaches God's message through beautiful art work, here is a book dedicated to the American fighting men in Southeast Asia through one man's story of coming from darkness to light through ground combat in Vietnam in the Americal divisions 196th LIB at LZ Baldy and other FB's in the immediate vicinity. Hughes was horribly wounded in a fire fight, given up for dead, treated and saved, and became God's messenger to spread the light of salvation to tired, battle weary souls, of that terrible conflict. This book traces his steps as a unruly teen through his military experience and subsequent transformation to a higher spiritual calling. This is an excellent piece of work and

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

guaranteed to keep you spellbound until you read the last word on the last page.

Paul Hughes travels and lectures and can be reached at Crossfire. [REDACTED], Sharon, TN. 38255-0535. Tel: [REDACTED]

The Book is available at all Christian and secular bookstores. Or, you can contact Paul direct at above address.

"WALL OF BLOOD" and **"VIETNAM SAGAZINE"** by Fred L. Brown, published by Combat Ready Press, [REDACTED], Oak Lawn, IL 60453.

"WALL OF BLOOD" is a book by a Vietnam veteran attempting and doing a very good job of, explaining the role of the US soldier in Vietnam who went through terrible ordeals and mental sufferings brought on by effects and after effects of that tragic struggle to free the Vietnamese people from communist domination at a price of a bit of every mans soul that will live within forever. Through a series of poems, personal experiences, and experiences of others "WALL OF BLOOD" is a spellbinding, breath taking saga of human emotions. It is a book well worth reading.

"VIETNAM SAGAZINE" is a series to be published in 9 parts by Fred L. Brown and Combat Ready Press as a graphic depiction of the many traumas combat veterans have brought home locked in their minds. Part 1 deals with PTSD in graphic form with detailed illustrations to help the uniformed become familiar with the so called "PTSD" suffered by Vietnam veterans. Fred has captured the essence of mans mental attitudes towards the events they lived through and have locked within themselves.

Further information on the above two books can be obtained by writing Fred L. Brown direct at the above address. He also lectures, and has several more books in the workings for the future. He owns and operates "Brown's Chicken stores" in Oak Lawn, IL. He served in the 196th LIB.

Dave Recob
Vietnam Editor

INCIDENT REMEMBERED

In the Jul-Aug 1993 Americal Newsletter we reported a fire fight at LZ "Fat City". Here is a reply sent to Ray Fawkes the author of the article by Richard G. Totten who was involved in that incident:

"Dear Ray. Hi! My name is Richard Totten. I am responding to a letter that appeared in the July-August 1993 Americal Newsletter. I do remember the incident outside of LZ "Fat City".

I participated in pursuit of the VC/NVA the next day along with the rest of my unit, Charlie company, 5/46th Inf of the 198th LIB. Charlie company had just returned to Chu Lai for stand-down the evening before, after spending the last three to four weeks in the Dragon Valley bush.

The company was notified about two or three in the morning to "stop partying" and to "try get some sleep", because we would be going out at first light to find and destroy the VC/NVA that had ambushed the Rangers. I was told that I would be temporally rejoining the second platoon instead of joining the 81mm squad going to Fat City. We were ready at dawn, but waited two or three extra hours waiting for the birds/slicks to pick us up and drop us off in the field.

When we did get picked up we were dropped off in a narrow valley behind the ridge line in an attempt to cut off the enemies retreat. After a few hours checking out this valley we were again picked up and dropped off between Fat City and Hill 76. We almost immediately picked up the trail. We were suspicious because it was almost too easy!

We found a new NVA rucksack, and some bandages [they may

have been the parachutes from the flares you mentioned]. When the trail entered the woodline it became apparent that the area ahead was booby trapped. Sampson found the first booby trap. After much discussion, Sampson was told to try and move around the booby trap to the left of it. When we tried the left, a whole group of booby traps exploded, wounding Sampson and maybe another. The slick that had been directing our movements from overhead landed behind us, picking up our wounded. We did not attempt to continue on this trail and returned to Chu Lai later in the day.

I wish we could have been more effective in pursuing the enemy, but to continue on this trail would have played into his hands.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Totten

Chelsea, MI 48118

POW/MIA RECOGNITION

Reprinted from the Bronx Times Reporter, Sept 9, 1993.

"Local Resident Continues Struggle For POW/MIA Recognition": By: David McMillian.

"As various veteran organizations get set to mark National Prisoner of War/Missing In Action Recognition Day this year, Pelham Parkway resident Ronald Lipschitz continues to struggle for further action to be taken for POW/MIA's.

Lipschitz, the POW/MIA chairman of the Americal Division Veterans Association, urged fellow Americans to show their support by flying the American flag as well as that of the POW/MIA. Lipschitz, an Astor Avenue resident, also suggested that all supporters drive with their car headlights on to urge the government to shed light on this continuing problem.

Lipschitz pointed out that most people immediately associate the POW/MIA problem with the Vietnam war. He asserts that official records show that from World War I there are still 3,350 MIA/POW, and from World War II, over 78,000; the Korean Police Action 8,172; and Vietnam 2,263, totaling 91,785 American troops missing and unaccounted for.

He opposes doing business at all with any country that may still hold Americans captive.

Lipschitz is a lifelong Bronxite. He served honorably in the armed forces from 1967 to 1970, including a tour in Vietnam with the Americal division 1968-69. He has served as a Past Commander of the Jewish War Veterans, Post #769 in the Bronx. He is senior vice commander of the Bronx Council of Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He speaks of the other problems that vets continually deal with. He knows first hand the pain of veterans living with the atrocities of war, in particular, he has to deal daily with the devastating effects of chemical warfare.

He talks rapidly and sporadically about the problems. The names and numbers flow effortlessly from long familiarity. There is a point at which he tenses up. His eyes get a faraway look and they mist slightly when things get personal.

He is sure he was sprayed with Agent Orange. The government wants him to prove it, which he said is next to impossible now.

I have four children, twin boys aged 18, a daughter 21, and my oldest son is 22. They all are "learning disabled", Lipschitz said, attributing the situation to being sprayed with Agent Orange while in Vietnam.

A clerk at Bankers Trust where he has worked for 21 years, he and his wife have done it all alone. Lipschitz said he wants "the nightmare to end". He is adamant in stating He won't stop until all POW/MIA's families are satisfied. He is deeply committed to exerting pressure to

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

get authorities to do everything possible to solve the complex problems.

In addition to his own struggles, Lipschitz has taken up the fight to have New York State fly the POW/MIA flag over the State Capitol during times of crisis.

Lipschitz wants the flag flown to show honor and respect for those families still in doubt about POW's and MIA's even after all these years.

He adds that, "As a family, it is very important that our country deal with this problem. It cannot be ignored. It is up to us all to put the pressure wherever it is needed to make it right for all again. We owe it to the families of those who have given their all.

National Prisoner of War/Missing In Action Recognition Day will be commemorated on Friday, September 10.

Other local veteran organizations will be honoring POW/MIA's. The Throggs Neck Memorial Post #1456 American Legion on Shore Drive will hold a Candlelight Vigil on Friday, September 17, at 8 p.m."

Ed Comment: We all appreciate your efforts Ron. Keep up the good work as Chairman of the ADVA POW/MIA committee.

REPORT ON JOE CHIN

Joe tells me that he is about 60% recovered in the use of his right shoulder and is still taking physical therapy.

While Joe is visiting his No.2 Son in Wheaton, IL the first two weeks of November, I'll turn 61 years old on Nov 10. So, Joe - have one for me!

We expect Joe to be recovered gainfully by Halloween, as He has lots of paperwork to do the end of the year and first four months of next year with his income tax service.

I'm sure Joe would appreciate a get well card from his old buddies and friends. His address is: [REDACTED] Lincoln, MA 01773-0006.

VA TO DEMAND MEDICAL RECEIPTS FROM PEOPLE ON VA PENSIONS

Crawford County Department of Veterans Services, Meadville, PA, sent the ADVA the following letter informing us of an upcoming new VA policy that will not be announced by VA:

Americal Division Association

Boston, MA 02104-1381

Dear Sir:

The Department of Veterans Affairs has instituted a policy that is potentially harmful to veterans and widows of veterans. I believe the intentions were honorable and just, however, the way the program is put into effect is dishonorable and unjust.

As can be seen in the below article from the Philadelphia Regional Office. The VA will, starting this fall, demand receipts for medical expenses from people on VA Pension. The problem with this is that the pensioners will NOT be given advance notice of this requirement. Consequently, a lot of receipts will have been thrown away. The result will be an overpayment will be created because the VA says they will adjust the benefits if the pensioner will not or CANNOT furnish the receipts.

I understand this policy is to help eliminate misuse and fraud. But, it seems unfair to our low income veterans and widows. Why couldn't the VA send a letter to these people stating that next year they would be expected to start keeping all medical receipts? At least then it would be a fair move on the part of the VA.

Would you please take the time to look into this injustice on the part of the VA towards our veterans and

their dependents?

Sincerely,

Terry L. McGee, Director
Crawford County, Dept of Veterans Services
Courthouse
Meadville, PA 16335-2696

Dept VA RO Philadelphia, PA, August 1993

VERIFICATION OF MEDICAL EXPENSES

"Beginning this fall VA will randomly review Improved Pension cases and ask claimants to verify their unreimbursed medical expenses. Approximately 500 cases will be reviewed each month. The sample will include all types of Improved Pension cases, even those with no reported income. In cases where medical expenses were reported to VA and these expenses resulted in a benefit increase, claimants will be asked to furnish proof of payment of the medical expenses. If a claimant is unwilling or unable to furnish such proof, the unverified medical expenses will be removed from an award and benefits adjusted. Current instructions on forms used to report medical expenses, such as Eligibility Verification Reports and VA Form 21-8416-Request for Information Concerning Medical, Legal or Other Expenses, do not specify how long a claimant must keep receipts for medical expenses. The instructions are being amended. Until the forms are revised, however, claimants should be told to keep their receipts for at least two years. This is necessary because of the time between the reporting of medical expenses, a subsequent VA award and the possible selection of a case for review."

Ed comment: This information is deemed vital to those it affects above. Start keeping receipts NOW!

VIETNAM WOMEN'S MEMORIAL SPEECH

BY

AMY LAZAR, Institute for Human Development
Univ of Kansas City, MO

Kansas City, MO 64108-2676

Below is the context of a speech given in St. Louis by Amy Lazar, a life member of the ADVA who was a former Red Cross Lady at the 91st/312th Evac Hosp's at Chu Lai. Speech was given at the St. Louis City Centre, last month at the dedication of the memorial on its way to Washington, D.C., for dedication Nov 11, 1993.

"I represent women, both military and civilian who proudly served this country during the Vietnam era. We are grateful for the recognition of the contribution we made to the United States military effort during a very controversial time in our nation's history.

I served in Vietnam in 1969-1970 as a Red Cross social worker in service to military hospitals. I was with the 312th Evacuation Hospital in Chu Lai, headquarters of the Americal Division. We helped provide an essential communication link between the injured or ill patient, as well as able-bodied staff, and their families back home. Along with us were the "Donut Dollies" who spent most of their time out at the firebases and landing zones bringing recreational activities to the troops in the field, and those serving in the field offices for the Red Cross.

In many areas there were women serving with the USO, Special Services, or perhaps at the embassy or other government offices of the United States. We were all there to provide social, recreational, entertainment, or other

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

services to our brave servicemen. The most important support we provided was just being there!

Currently, I am privileged to be serving our Vietnam Veterans as coordinator of the Missouri Vietnam Veterans Education and Resource System, which is a project funded by the Agent Orange Class Assistance Program. Some of the funds set aside from the settlement of the class action suit with the chemical companies that produced Agent Orange, a defoliant widely used in Vietnam containing dioxin, were designated by the presiding judge, Judge Weinstein, to be used to assist families of Vietnam veterans, particularly those with special needs or disabilities. There are approximately 75 of these grantees throughout the United States. Our grant is being administered by the Institute for Human Development which is a University Affiliated Program through the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

We have two catchment areas, one rural site serving 16 counties in South Central Missouri, and our urban site serving the greater Kansas City Metropolitan area. We provide information and referral services regarding Agent Orange, Post-traumatic Stress Disorder, developmental disabilities, benefits, etc. We are also providing service coordination to underserved families, and cross training between the traditional community-based services and the veteran community for better mutual understanding of needs and access to community services.

Because of this background as a Red Cross social worker and my current involvement with serving Vietnam veterans and their families, I am especially pleased that this memorial to all 265,000 women who served during the Vietnam era is being dedicated. I knew many wonderful nurses who deserve tremendous recognition for the role they had and some of the difficult life and death decisions they were forced to make. It was often very difficult to stabilize a patient and then not know what happened as they were air evacuated out of country. Many of those patients were to ill to even say "thanks".

But there were other women in Vietnam whose mere presence was the most important part of their tour. Many times we have been told that to just talk with an American female represented home and family and boosted morale. I speak for these women who considered the best thing they could do to relieve the pain and suffering, confusion, and loneliness, was to give them a few words of encouragement, and listen when they wanted to talk. Whether they were patients or hospital staff, entertained by USO shows or in USO Clubs, or received Special Services and recreational materials such as games, books, magazines, etc., out at the fire bases and landing zones, servicemen were always glad to have women to talk with whenever possible.

The Vietnam Women's Memorial is a legacy to the women who served in Vietnam, Korea, Japan, Okinawa, Guam, Hawaii, or the continental United States and around the world who all had a part in the support of the troops in the fields of Southeast Asia. It is a memorial indeed to the sacrifices we made to serve our country. But most notably it is the "Thank You" to these women who were never able to receive that recognition individually, who now receive it collectively.

Until very recently I had not caught the vision of this project. Now I am overwhelmed by its importance to the women who served during the Vietnam era, as well as the veterans, their families, parents, spouses, children, and friends who are all waiting to honor the bravery, sacrifice and dedication represented by this memorial.

If you are not at all able to attend the dedication ceremonies of this memorial on Veteran's Day, November 11, 1993 at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., please share the special moments with us. We are grateful to Vietnam veterans and veterans of all wars in which America has been involved to share their day with us and for the women who supported their men in those conflicts, we salute you as well!

Amy Lazar

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

Dear Amy:

Speaking for those veterans who never had a chance to learn of the name of their nurse's or doctor's, or the Red Cross social worker who wrote our letters, and listened to our stories, and helped us heal from our wounds received in combat from World War II to Korea, and to Vietnam, and all whistle stops in between, who saw us through the worse of it all, their clothes stained with our blood, who gladly forsake the blessings of comfortable female living conditions, for a chance to share hard times and sacrifice in a combat zone, and the other gals who worked to serve our needs, and who sometimes gave the ultimate sacrifice called upon warriors of any sex, this old soldier for himself and thousands of others, would like to say "thanks", "thanks for helping us put our lives together, and come back home to our loved ones", and to also saying "thanks for trying" when super human efforts resulted in failure to bring about a stabilization for a guy too badly wounded to piece back together. All of us, those here on this earth today, and from the starry decked heavens above, look down on Washington, D.C., on Veterans Day, Nov 11, 1993, and say "thank you ladies--thank you, for a job well done!". You are enshrined in our hearts, always...

I remember well, the horrible cold winter of 1950 during the Korean conflict when in November chilling temps were at 40' below zero, and our feet were frozen and all exposed flesh was ash white from being frozen. On line with the US Marines, the Third Infantry Division and my own 7th Infantry Division at the Chosen Reservoir, we watched 300,000 Chinese soldiers cross the Yalu River and start us on the 'retrograde movement to the rear' as the Marines called it. Troops walked and fought the 300 miles from the Chosen to the Port of Hungnam where we were evacuated to Pusan for regrouping and medical attention. We had Doctors and Nurses from the mixed units that accompanied us and who attended our wounds and frozen bodies. Always, on the edge of battle was the "ladies in white" dressed in combat fatigues with iodine and bandages for weapons, and where medicine could not heal, a little hug and soft spoken words. They froze too, but never a whimper, least the patients become frightened or scared. In the spring of 1951 I was wounded a second time and passed through the old 8063rd Field MASH at Tageau and tagged for Japan. It was here the tired, gaunt faces, eyes red from loss of sleep, and stained cheeks from chaffing, crying, and rubbing, came to administer our needs, bundle us up, and pack us onto aircraft for airlifting to Japan. We never got to say "thanks" or learn their names. On arrival at Tokyo Army Hospital in a sterile environment, our battered bodies were lifted and taken to warm beds where we were tended by real nurses in a real hospital environment. I spent seven months at Tokyo Army recuperating, and it was here I got to know my medical care staff. Captain Irene Slatts, Chief Nurse, Captain Lois Cunningham, Lieutenant Kathy Baker, and our Ward Doctor Colonel Ariendahl P. Valli, MD a renowned chest surgeon, lungs and heart specialist. I am repeating all of this Amy, because these people were just as heroic in their environments as we were in ours out in the bush at the battlefields where our units engaged the enemy. Life and death struggles went on around us day after day, as some of us grew strong, some grew weak and passed on from the wounds they suffered.

So, as this Women's Memorial is dedicated in Washington, D.C. in November on my 61st Birthday, I want to thank those doctors and nurses I did not know, and those I do know and remember, for allowing me to live by their medical knowledge, to advance to 61 years of age from a mere boy of 18 years of age. I am sure those who can remember could probably write a better testimonial, but for what it is worth, here mine is, and if someone out there would like to send in their testimonial to the ladies in white and to the other gals who worked everywhere for our welfare, I'll print it.

Dave

5821 Dory Way
Tampa, FL 33615

Dear Dave:

I joined the ADVA just in time to be invited and to attend this years reunion in Topeka. I had a great time. "Thanks!"

I am writing to see if you can help me find some old friends.

I was with C-5/46th Inf, 198th LIB from March to June 1968 on LZ Chippawa, and in C-4/21st Inf, 11th LIB from June 1968 to Feb 1969. I also spent a couple "short tours" in the 312th Evac Hospital at Chu Lai.

Your Comrade,

Robert [Bob] Kapp
Tampa, FL

Ed comment: I sure do remember Bob. We talked quite a few times. Our Ladies talked also. Anyone out there know Bob Kapp? He would also appreciate information on a Lt. Windby and a Pete Montaforte, both unfortunately not members of ADVA.

DUMPING GARBAGE IN A
MEMORIAL FOREST DEDICATED TO VETERANS

The Vietnam Editor recently learned that the Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority, Ava, New York was going to start dumping garbage and solid waste material in a 400 acre plot of land dedicated as "The Veterans Memorial Forest" on May 16, 1951 by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors, Ava, N.Y.

On May 30, 1953 it was further dedicated as a "living memorial to those veterans who served their country".

It seems the veterans of this country take last place in just about anything when local government has no need to be thankful to the veteran when the war is over, the fighting has stopped, and the dying have died, the wounded recovered and spread their wings to all parts of the land.

What a horrible discredit to veterans the Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority and the Oneida County Board of Legislators have dreamed up to dump garbage and trash in a beautiful memorial garden forest of 400 dedicated acres to the service of man by war veterans of that community in New York state.

It is despicable tactics such as this, by arrogant civic leaders that veterans continue to fall prey to local governments seeking land to convert into garbage dumps or housing projects.

May I suggest that Americal Division members join forces with the veterans of Ava, New York, and write a letter telling the board of legislators what each feel about such an outrageous attack on such hallowed ground set aside to honor our fallen heroes and the living veterans of that community! Write:

Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority
and Oneida County Board of Legislators
Ava, New York 13303

Additional information can be obtained from: Veterans Defending Memorial Forest, [REDACTED], Boonville, NY 13309, Tel: [REDACTED].

Let's show them such tactics are despicable!

ARE YOUR 1994 DUES PAID YET? IF
NOT - SEND THEM IN TODAY. THANKS....

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS OF
COMBAT AND NON-COMBAT MILITARY VETERANS

Your National Commander, and several members of the ADVA have been in conversation with the Vietnam Editor these past few days, talking about personal reflections and stories every military veteran may have concerning his own personal military experiences.

The Turner Publishing Company is in process of printing the histories of Americal veterans who responded to their inquiries about writing the Americal Division History of its veterans biographies and showing their photographs for future reference of those who will come after us when we are gone in our family circle of friends and relatives.

There may still be time for those of you who did not send your biography in, and you could still perhaps get it included if you wrote Turner Publishing Company, 412 Broadway, [REDACTED], Paducah, KY 42002-3101 or Tel: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] or FAX [REDACTED]. It is worth, at least, an attempt to see if you can still get your personal history entered into this book for future reference of anyone who is concerned enough to "look it up!"...

While I am on this subject, with winter coming upon us in most parts of the country, and snow and ice soon to "home bound" quite a few of us, here is a great opportunity, to take up pen, pencil, typewriter or computer, and start putting into print your saga as a military veteran of the wars you served in, and what life was like as you saw it take place during your military days as a soldier.

I know that most of you will scoff at this suggestion as a wild, hair brained idea of a coffee sucking editor who has nothing better to do than harass the troops with this lame brained idea. But, on second thought, it might not be such a bad idea after all. Most of you, aged as we are, may have some grandchild or great grandchild you might want to leave a story legacy to know you, and what you did, as a soldier once that child grows up. Your own grown children may be yearning for you to do this also, and to embarrassed or afraid to tell you. This is something that each veteran must research the inner most recesses of his heart, and come up with the decision to "once and for all" to "put it down in writing", so all will be able to remember who and what you were in the war you fought back in history before the present era they are residing in. Who cares how you write it, or explain it. Just start doing it from day one to last day of service, and what you did after that. It is not so important all dates be correct and you can recall events as you remember them without worrying about accuracy. When you put it down on paper, it gives someone a reference point, like an artillery man using an aiming stake to align his piece for firing, to start looking. History will be all that is left of your life, here on this earth, after you are gone, dead, and buried. If it gets tangled up wrong, then what? You at least need to leave a true and correct record of your life and conduct, so that no doubt can remain of who you were, what you were, and what you contributed to society to make it a better, more honorable place for all to live and participate in. It is not about being a "bragger", or "stretching the truth", or "making it better than it was", it is that it is on paper, and can be seen by the world. Let others decide the merits. I raised two children telling them that truth is something that never needs to be defended. Tell the truth, and you can tell it each and every time the exact same way without worry did you tell it that way or not! So it is with history. Like Jack Webb in "Dragnet" - "Fact's mam'm, just the facts!"...

Our children will love us, our relatives will praise us,

for taking the time to "tell 'em like it is and was!" If

enough of you veterans write Turner Publishing Company they

sure will extend the deadline and be happy to cover

everything needed to be covered. Come on, do it!

Dave Recob

VIETNAM

NEWS

NETWORK

FAMILIES WHO ARE SEEKING ANYONE WHO KNEW ANY OF THE BELOW AMERICAL DIV MEMBERS KILLED IN ACTION

NAME/RANK/DATE KIA/UNIT:

Allen, Wayne C., SFC, 1-10-70, 71Avn, 14AvnBn, 16thAvnGp
 Biddulph, Thomas A., LT, 10-27-68, D, 1/198 LIB
 Breen, Gerald J., SP4, 3-5-67, 21st Inf, 196th LIB
 Cox, George J., SSG, 3-14-68, 11th LIB
 Cupp, Robert W., CPL, 6-6-68, D-2-1, 196th LIB
 Daley, Gerald, PFC, 6-30-69, D-2-196th LIB
 Davis, Frank Jr., SP4, 10-19-69, 198th LIB
 Desormeaux, Harry H., SGT, 5-17-68, 11th LIB
 Gurvitz, Jeffrey, 1LT, 2-29-68, B-2-1 [near DaNang]
 Haile, Donald J. E5, 2-9-68, 196th LIB
 Hanson, Johnnie, PFC, 3-19-69, A-2-1, 196th LIB
 Haynes, Robert M. Jr., SP4, 10-5-69, B-5-46, 198th LIB
 Heitmann, Kenneth H., SGT, 3-25-70, C-3-21, 196th LIB
 Hickman, Thomas S., CPL, 8-26-70, 196th LIB
 Holden, David., PFC, 2-28-67, A-4-31, 196th LIB
 Jarrell, Sidney Wade, SP4, 5-13-70, unlisted
 Johnston, Billy Neal Jr., SSG, 8-16-70, 1-198th LIB
 Kelley, Joseph, SSG, 7-1-69, 11th LIB
 LeBlanc, Francis Joseph., SP4, 8-26-68, 11th LIB 1-NSF, Co C
 McMahon, Charles D., SSG, 5-12-70, B-4-3, 11th LIB
 Mangino, Thomas Angelo, SP4, 4-21-67, D-4-31, 196th LIB
 Murphy, Larron, CPT, 4-23-70, F-8th Cav
 Musco, Vincent James, SGT, 8-18-69, 11th LIB
 Nelson, Roy L., 1LT, 4-22-71, A-1-52
 Newberry, Larry G, CPL, 9-30-68, 11th LIB
 Pedersen, Russell A., SGT, 9-11-68, B-3-1, 11th LIB
 Pringle, Donald I., E6, 12-27-69, A-1-1 Cav & E-1-1 Cav
 Richard, Duane, SP5, 2-10-70, 335th Trans Co, 16th Avn Gp
 Shaw, John James, PFC, 1-29-67, C-3-21, 196th LIB
 Spencer, Kenneth D., SGT, 5-21-69, 11th LIB
 Tally, Floyd G., SP5, 12-8-69, 1-46, 198th LIB
 Taylor, Randy L., SP4, 8-17-67, Hq-2-1, 196th LIB
 Turner, James H., SP4, 10-9-69, 118th Avn Co, 12th Avn Gp
 Two Crow, Blair, PFC, 12-4-68, 11th LIB
 Watkins, Harry Lee Jr., SGT, 1-9-68, D-2-1, 196th LIB
 Widner, Danny., SGT, 5-12-68, E-1-2 or E-2-1, 196th LIB

Thanks is given to Gerald J. Hughes, B-2-1, 196th LIB, 261 Canterbury Rd, Westfield, NJ 07090, Tel: [REDACTED] - who obtained these names from "In Touch" Committee during the 1992 Veterans Week Ceremonies. To obtain the name and address of relative[s] of any of the above members of the Americal Division, please write or call direct to:

"In Touch"

c/o FRIENDS OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL
 [REDACTED] ARLINGTON, VA 2201
 TEL: [REDACTED]

The Staff of the Americal Newsletter is most happy to provide such a service to our departed brothers families and hope that this listing will receive wide attention of those living members of units listed above who hopefully will recall the events relatives are seeking.

ANSWER TO EDITORS QUESTION
 LETTERS TO THE OLD GUARD
 WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE"

Reference Page 15, Right Column, center photograph.

"US Navy Secretary Frank Knox has his helmet on backwards!"

After all, what do you expect people who are not soldiers do, trying to imitate one. I bet those Generals and Admirals lacked the courage to tell Knox of his error, or - they thought the troops deserved "a good laugh!"

SEEKING MEMBERS FORMER UNITS

Bill Marsh, 11 Quaker Road, Parkersburg, PA., 19365, Tel: 215-857-2374 [after 6pm Sundays only]

Is seeking former members of the 400th Transportation Detachment or 178th A.S.H. Company, serving in Chu-Lai Vietnam 1967-1969 who are wanting to correspond with each other or to hold a reunion for the purpose of reacquainting selves with former buddies and friends.

Bill will answer any and all inquires direct. Correspond or call him direct.



CANADIAN VIETNAM VETERANS QUEBEC

[REDACTED], BEAUHARNOIS, QC JON 3C1

The first Canadian Vietnam Veterans Memorial has come to rest after a lengthy grace period, the Quebec Memorial has a permanent resting place, it's location is in Melocheville, Quebec, off Route 132, and it's Memorial Dedication will be in the fall of 1994.

Construction has begun, cement work is on now and it will not only be a site of a Memorial, but a landscaped park, so that Canadians as well as Americans will have a place of Dedication to stop, rest and to look at, to honor those who gave their lives, and those who are still Missing or Unaccounted for while serving in Southeast Asia.

To the close to 30,000 Canadians who served in Vietnam and a part of them being from Quebec, this Memorial is Dedicated, and long overdue, and for that reason we need your support. For anyone requiring information on this matter, please address your correspondence to the above address or Call our office at 514-739-6237 in Montreal, Quebec.

Sincerely,

CANADIAN VIETNAM VETERANS QUEBEC

S/T DOMINIC ROTONDO
 Associate Director
 Memorial Committee

[A Charitable Organization #LBROC-1275-FOLIO-56]

ASSOCIATION QUEBECOISE DES VETERANS DU VIETNAM



CANADIAN VETERANS PATCHES

Beautiful veteran patches or supporter patches can be purchased for \$5.50 each [postpaid]; T-Shirts in Black or Blue for \$18.50 with Memorial embedded [postpaid]; Sweatshirts for \$27.00 [postpaid] or Hat or Lapel Pins for \$6.00 each [postpaid] from:

ROVEND Enr.

[REDACTED]
 Montreal, Quebec, Canada HX3-2M1

SEEKING FORMER MEMBERS

The 14th Aviation Bn, [HHD, 71st, 161st, 282nd, 176th, 406TD, 178th and 174th companies] are searching for former members. If you belonged to any of the above, please contact: Harvey York, 303 Walnut St, Cedartown, GA 30125, Tel: [REDACTED] or Eddie McNeill, [REDACTED], Seagrove, NC 27341, Tel: [REDACTED]. A Reunion is being planned for the Summer of 1994.

VIETNAM

NEWS

NETWORK

CAN YOU HELP?

E TROOP 1st CAVALRY 11 LIB
 LZ BRONCO DUC PHO

I am searching for anyone who served in the above unit from May 4, 1968 thru May 4, 1969.

I was one of the cooks for E Troop at LZ Bronco. Most of my comrades called me "Spoon".

Jeffrey Chase
 Soldiers Home WH 229
 [REDACTED]
 Chelsea, MA 02150

COMPANY A 3 BATTALION 1 INFANTRY 11 LIB

Thank you for printing my letter in your July August Newsletter. I am so pleased with the responses I received and wanted to share this with everyone. I had four answers to my inquiry. From the information sent to me by the one vet who did know and serve with Joe for a few months I found out that Joe was with the 3/1 Inf of the 11 LIB.

If you could print this letter, that would be great because I would really like to thank Dan Dinklage, Richard Sandak, Corky Johnson. I am especially grateful for the help and information offered by Rosolino Pizzillo.

If any other members knew or remember S/Sgt Joseph Kelly Co. A 3/1 Inf. 11 LIB, Nov. 68 KIA July 1, 69 please drop me a line. It would mean so much. Again, thank you. You guys are great.

Jessica St. John
 [REDACTED]
 White Hall, MD 21161

C COMPANY 46 INFANTRY 198 LIB
 C COMPANY 21 INFANTRY 11 LIB

Bob Kapp, [REDACTED], Tampa, FL, 33615, Telephone [REDACTED] is seeking anyone he served with while he was in C-5-46 198 LIB from March to June 1968 on LZ Chippawa, and/or C-4-21 11 LIB from June 1969 until February 1969. He also spent a couple of "short tours" in the 312th Evac Hospital at Ch Lai. He would particularly like to locate a Lt. Windby and a Pete Montaforte if at all possible, if any of you vets know their whereabouts.

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

This request starts one of the most important aspects of our membership campaign. One of the detriments to having a large organization is that most of the ex-Americal Veterans have no idea that we exist. With these non-paid advertisements, as well as one large paid advertisement per year in a large veterans magazine, we hope to get the word out to all eligible veterans who are not members of this association to join it through publicizing our national telephone line and P.O. Box address. Your help is desperately needed to help get this campaign launched in your community.

LOCATE NEWSLETTERS/PAPERS THAT WILL BE KIND ENOUGH TO ACCEPT OUR ADVERTISEMENT ASK THAT THIS MAY BE PRINTED FOR US AS WE ARE A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. THE A.D.V.A. THANKS YOU,

DID YOU WEAR THIS PATCH???

AMERICAL DIVISION veterans association
 [REDACTED] BOSTON, MA 02104



NATIONAL NEWSLETTER NATIONAL COMPUTER NETWORK
 REUNIONS

NATIONAL INFORMATION [REDACTED] SEND FOR YOUR FREE
 A PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE MEMBERSHIP KIT

Please clip or copy the coupon in this article and ask they be printed in the publications of local veterans communications such as the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, or Disabled American Veterans, as well as military publications located on active military reservations, posts, camps, and/or stations in your vicinity. Please stipulate to the local publisher the we are a not-for-profit national association and that we would appreciate publication as a public service.

A.D.V.A. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

 HISTORICAL FACTS
 THE AMERICAL DIVISION IN VIETNAM

Beginning in this issue and in future issues the story of the 23rd Inf Div [Americal] in Vietnam will be listed and facts reported for the review of those involved.

The source reference material is the book "Under The Southern Cross" The Americal Division, issued by MGen A.E. Milloy, Division Commander and the Public Information Office at Chu Lai in 1970. "Wait with patience guy's, your outfit will be listed".

1967

In February of 1967, General William C. Westmoreland, commander of U.S. forces in Vietnam, formed a planning group to organize an Army task force to send to the I Corps area.

This planning group, commanded by Major General William B. Rosson, organized a multi-brigade force composed of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade; the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division; and the 3rd Brigade, 25th Inf Division [later redesignated the 3rd Brigade, 4th Inf Division].

Task Force Oregon became operational on April 20, 1967, when troops from the 196th Brigade landed at the Chu Lai airstrip and immediately began search operations around the base camp. Soldiers from the 3rd Brigade, 4th Division started conducting search and destroy operations in Southern Quang Ngai Province, and in May the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne paratroopers arrived at Duc Pho and operations in the jungles west of there.

Early operations conducted by Task Force Oregon included Malheur I and Malheur II, Hood River, Benton and Cook. On September 11, 1967, Operation Wheeler was launched against elements of the 2nd North Vietnamese Army Division working in the area northwest of Chu Lai.

HISTORICAL FACTS (Continues next page)

VIETNAM

NEWS

NETWORK

On September 22, 1967, Brigadier General Samuel W. Koster, assumed command of the task force, replacing Major General Richard T. Knowles, and three days later Task Force Oregon became the Americal Division, composed of the 196th, 198th, and the 11th Light Infantry Brigades, even though the latter two organizations were still training in the United States.

Operation Wheeler continued and on October 4, 1967, the 3rd Brigade, 1st Air Cavalry Division, joined Americal and immediately launched Operation Wallowa in the northern sector of the division's area of operations. Operations Wheeler and Wallowa were combined on November 11, and Operation Wheeler/Wallowa was conducted by the 196th Brigade [which replaced the 101st Airborne's 1st Brigade in Operation Wheeler after that organization departed for the II Corps tactical zone] and the 3rd Brigade, 1st Air Cavalry.

An official change of colors ceremony was held October 26, and the Americal Division became the seventh Army division fighting in Vietnam. General Koster received his second star during the same ceremony.

On October 22, the 198th Light Infantry Brigade arrived in Vietnam from Ft. Hood, Texas and deployed to Duc Pho where it received combat training from the battle hardened soldiers of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry. The 198th was in charge of the defense of the Chu Lai base camp and airstrip.

Operation Wheeler/Wallowa became the responsibility of the 196th Infantry Brigade and the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry. The 1/1 had been operating in the general area since September 1967, and officially became part of the Americal Division on January 10, 1968.

The 198th Infantry Brigade remained responsible for securing the immediate area around Chu Lai.

The 11th Light Infantry Brigade joined the Americal on December 20, and moved to Duc Pho for training. The "Jungle Warriors" later conducted combat operations in the Duc Pho area.

Battalions of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division were deployed in the Duc Pho area of operations throughout 1967 and into 1968 controlled Operation Muscatine. Maneuver battalions of the brigade were also deployed in the northern provinces, and took part in continuing Operation Wheeler/Wallowa. The 3rd Brigade conducted combat operations in the mountains west of Duc Pho, and assisted in the combat orientation of the 11th Light Infantry Brigade.

Operation Muscatine, a multi-battalion operation in the northern districts of Quang Ngai Province, was launched in early December by the 198th Brigade and units of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry. The 3rd Brigade assumed control of the operation on January 2, 1968, but was released from the operational control of the division and moved south into II Corps. The "Jungle Warriors" of the 11th Infantry Brigade deployed initially to Duc Pho. Combat operations were begun in the Duc Pho area of operations when the Brigade took over Operation Muscatine.

1968

Task Force Barker was formed in February by elements of the 11th Brigade to route the Viet Cong from an area considered an enemy strong-hold for 20 years. It was concluded successfully in April 1968.

Another task force, Miracle, was formed in February during the enemy's "TET" offensive when the City of Da Nang was threatened by the 60th Main Force Viet Cong Battalion. The division's 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry and the 2nd Battalion 1st Infantry assisted the Marines in the fighting, the threat to Da Nang was obliterated and the task force was deactivated and returned to the Americal area of operation.

Starting in 1968, the Americal Division joined with the government of South Vietnam in the pacification program to "win the hearts and minds" of the Vietnamese people. It is a coordinated effort to gain the full support of the Vietnamese people by helping them to meet their own needs

and at the same time depriving the enemy of his claim to popular backing.

MEDCAP missions to the hamlets and villages of southern I Corps to provide the Vietnamese people with much needed medical supplies and services.

One of the main objectives of the pacification program was the economic growth of the nation as a whole. And the greatest appeal to the people laid in the promise of increased individual prosperity.

Operation Norfolk Victory was begun by elements of the 11th Brigade on April 8, 1968, in the mountainous terrain southwest of Quang Ngai City.

By its conclusion a major enemy base of operations had been destroyed, and a weapons cache uncovered [126 individual and crew-served weapons, plus numerous enemy munitions and supplies].

On that same day that Operation Norfolk Victory was begun, another operation was begun by the 198th Brigade north of Chu Lai. Operation Burlington Trail had the goal of opening a road from Tam Ky to Tien Phuoc, a Special Forces outpost and district headquarters in Quang Tin Province. The mission of conducting the road was given to elements of the 39th Engineer Battalion who were provided security by units from the 198th Brigade.

April 20 marked the first anniversary of Task Force Oregon, and General William C. Westmoreland spoke at ceremonies in Chu Lai.

On that same day, the 198th assumed control of Operation Wheeler/Wallowa from the 196th Brigade which was temporarily placed under the operational control of the 1st Air Cavalry Division.

Under the operational control of the III Amphibious Force in Da Nang, the Americal Division had been summoned to distant areas outside the division's area of operations on several occasions.

During April, the 196th was sent to the northern portion of Quang Tri Province and participated in fighting near the demilitarized zone. On June 23, 1968, Major General Charles M. Gettys assumed command of the Division from interim commander Brigadier General George H. Young, Jr.

After a "mid-summer lull", activity picked up when the 1st Squadron 1st Cavalry teamed up with elements of the 4th Bn, 21st Inf, 11th Brigade and 2nd Bn, 1st Inf, 196th Brigade to engage regulars of the 2nd NVA Division seven kilometers west of Tam Ky, August 24-27. 548 NVA soldiers were killed. Action again flared in the second week of September when a combined effort of the 2nd ARVN Division and the 11th Brigade spoiled enemy plans to attack Quang Ngai City. That operation netted 442 enemy killed.

Operation Champaign Grove was formed on September 4 to relieve pressure on the Ha Thanh Civilian Irregular Defense Group Camp and to prevent a possible attack against Quang Ngai City. Units of the 11th Brigade, 1st Squadron, 1st Cav and the 2nd ARVN Division combined together to kill 323 NVA.

In a battle five miles southwest of Quang Ngai City, C Troop, 1/1 Cav killed 42 enemy soldiers and captured a large weapons cache.

On September 14, Infantry and Cavalry men of Task Force Galloway reported 40 NVA and 3 VC killed and six crew served and eight individual weapons captured in Operation Champaign Grove.

On September 21, the heaviest contact was in Operation Burlington Trail, as units of the 1st Cav, F Troop, 8th Cav and a company of the 11th Brigade's 4th Bn, 21st Inf, killed 92 NVA.

Operation Golden Fleece in which the 196th Brigade helped Vietnamese harvest more than one million pounds of rice in the Que Son Valley, also began during September, ending two months later. October brought more rice as the "Chargers" of the 196th killed 22 VC and captured 12, 425 pounds of rice on September 26th. "Guardians" of the 2nd Bn, 1st Inf gathered 6,800 pounds of rice in three separate caches 24 miles west of Tam Ky. In November, the two longest running Americal Operations, Wheeler/Wallowa and Burlington Trail, ended.

VIETNAM

NEWS

NETWORK

FROM THE AMERICAL STAFF



The former, which was primarily conducted by the 196th accounted for 10,020 enemy dead and 2,053 captured weapons in its one year of existence. Burlington Trail, in which the 198th with help from the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, 26th and 39th Engineer Battalions, succeeded in opening the road from Tam Ky to Tien Phuoc, recorded 1,948 enemy dead and 545 weapons captured. Both operations ended on November 11th.

On November 16, units of the 198th Brigade accounted for 41 VC killed in the Chu Lai area. A recon patrol member LRP observed VC moving down a trail 10 miles north of Quang Ngai City. The 1st/82nd Artillery placed eight inch shells right on the target.

On November 17, a 1st/14th Artillery Battery along the 198th Brigade killed 32 VC when the enemy launched a mortar, recoilless rifle, and ground attack against the Binh Son District headquarters.

In action west of Tam Ky and north of Tien Phuoc Civilian Irregular Defense Group camp, 196th Brigade soldiers killed 44 enemy soldiers on November 21st.

In November, Operation Vernon Lake II began in the mountainous region southwest of Quang Ngai City. During its four month existence, 11th Brigade "Jungle Warriors", uncovered 81 NVA base camps and 3 surgical hospitals. The 3rd Bn, 1st Inf and the 4th Bn, 21st Inf soldiers killed 455 enemy soldiers. The operation terminated on February 28, 1969.

The Battleship New Jersey was in the division area of operations from November 24 to November 27. During this time, the Navy's only active Battleship destroyed 122 enemy structures, 55 bunkers, and 32 fighting positions.

On December 2, a major pacification effort was begun by the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, 1st Bn, 46th Inf, 198th Brigade; and the 26th Engineer Bn in Thang Binh District.

Operation Hardin Falls had as its main purpose providing assistance to Government of Vietnam forces so they could pacify six hamlets in the district. It also ended on February 28, 1969.

In mid-December, Operation Fayette Canyon was started in the mountains 25 miles northwest of Tam Ky. Conducted by the 2nd Bn, 1st Inf, and 4th Bn, 31st Inf, of the 196th Brigade, and by the 198th's 1st Bn, 46th Inf, 327 enemy were killed, bunkers and other complexes were destroyed, and 65 weapons were captured, by the time the operation ended on February 28, 1969.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE

CORRECTION TO SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

On page 6, September - October 1993 edition of the Newsletter it was stated that Melissa Egeland was the winner of "SSG JAMES R. DROWLEY SCHOLARSHIP OF THE MUEHRCKE FAMILY FOUNDATION". This was in error. It should have read "SSG JESSIE R. DROWLEY SCHOLARSHIP OF THE MUEHRCKE FAMILY FOUNDATION".

The Staff regrets the error. We apologize for any inconvenience it may have caused the winner or the family foundation. The Vietnam editor takes the responsibility for this error.

Dave Recob

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

And the
Very Best
of
The Season





JAMES C. BUCKLE
4 WILSON AVENUE
WAKEFIELD, MA
01880

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
BOSTON, MASS. 02104
PERMIT NO. 58746

FORWARDING AND
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1993

Mr. John DeGroot P. L.
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [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 American (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 American 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 American Division of the United States Army.

AMERICAN DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 1381, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02104

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address — Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

American Unit: Rgt. _____ Bn. _____ Co/Bty. _____ Other _____

Dates of Service — From: _____ To: _____ Serial No.: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Blood Type: _____ Social Security #: _____

V. A. Claim No.: _____ V. A. Office — City: _____ State: _____

Occupation: _____ Wife's First Name: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Sponsored by: _____ (NOTE: Please Enclose Initial Dues) \$12.00

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)