

★ GUADALCANAL

★ NORTHERN SOLOMONS

★ LEYTE

★ SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

★ VIETNAM



AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

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

FOUNDED 1945

Editor in Chief; Jim Buckle
Vietnam Editor; Ron Ward

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

CHICAGO



1986

EDITOR IN CHIEF
James C. Buckle
[REDACTED]

Wakefield, MA 01880

VIETNAM EDITOR
Ron Ward
[REDACTED]

St. Louis, MO 63123

1986

NATIONAL OFFICERS 1987

NATIONAL COMMANDER
Kenneth R. Turner
[REDACTED]

Wakefield, MA 01880

SR. VICE COMMANDER
Bernard Chase
[REDACTED]

So. Yarmouth, MA 02664

JR. VICE COMMANDER
Robert N. Thornton
[REDACTED]

Waltham, MA 02154

NATIONAL FINANCE OFFICER
Hyman Forman
[REDACTED]

Randolph, MA 02368

NATIONAL ADJUTANT
William L. Dunphy
[REDACTED]

West Roxbury, MA 02132

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
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James C. Buckle
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Marguerite Cooney
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Harry L. Corliss
William S. Coronella

Edward A. Vieira
Herbert J. O'Brien
William T. Schmidt
Francis L. Guerriero
*Chairman

1986 CLAM BAKE

AMERICAL MUSEUM
Fort Devens, Mass.
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 1986

MONTHLY MEETING

September 10, 1986
National Guard Armory
Victory Road Dorchester, Mass.

7:00 P.M. National Executive Council meets
8:00 P.M. Regular Business Meeting

October 8, 1986
National Guard Armory
Victory Road Dorchester, Mass
3:00 P.M. Regular Business Meeting

LET'S HAVE A GOOD TURNOUT AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING
BRING SOMEONE WITH YOU!

Vietnam Vets Network

By Ron Ward - Vietnam News Editor

This is the fifth in a series of Medal of Honor Recipients

David F. Winder - K.I.A.

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Army, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 1st Infantry, 11th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. Place and date: Republic of Vietnam, 13 May 1970. Entered service at: Columbus, Ohio. Born: 10 August 1946, Edinboro, PA. Citation: Pfc. Winder distinguished himself while serving in the Republic of Vietnam as a senior medical aidman with Company A. After moving through freshly cut rice paddies in search of a suspected company-size enemy force, the unit started a thorough search of the area. Suddenly they were engaged with intense automatic weapons and rocket propelled grenade fire by a well entrenched enemy force. Several friendly soldiers fell wounded in the initial contact and the unit was pinned down. Responding instantly to the cries of his wounded comrades, Pfc. Winder began maneuvering across approximately 100 meters of open, bullet-swept terrain toward the nearest casualty. Unarmed and crawling most of the distance, he was wounded by enemy fire before reaching his comrades. Despite his wounds and with great effort, Pfc. Winder reached the first casualty and administered medical aid. As he continued to crawl across the open terrain toward a second wounded soldier he was forced to stop when wounded a second time. Aroused by the cries of an injured comrade for aid, Pfc. Winder's great determination and sense of duty impelled him to move forward once again, despite his wounds, in a courageous attempt to reach and assist the injured man. After struggling to within 10 meters of the man, Pfc. Winder was mortally wounded. His dedication and sacrifice inspired his unit to initiate an aggressive counterassault which led to the defeat of the enemy. Pfc. Winder's conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the cost of his life were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit and the U.S. Army.

HELP WANTED

Richard Keck is seeking information on an Americal vet who was KIA on May 8, 1971 on an operation in or near Laos. PFC Albert Ray Hawkins was working out of LZ Vandergrift with the HHC 14th CAB or Cav. Any individuals who served with PFC Hawkins or have knowledge of the circumstances of his death should contact Keck who is helping Hawkins relatives on this matter. Write to Rich at [REDACTED] Powell, TN 37849.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP A BUDDY?

HELP WANTED (Continued)

Jim Giles who served with the 1st/20th Infantry IIth Brigade is looking for someone to help him find a couple sets of unit crests for his outfit. Anyone who can help should contact Jim at his home, [REDACTED], So. Glen Falls, N.Y. 12803

Mike "Sgt. Mike" Carter wants to hear from anyone who served with him in the following units of the IIth Brigade: E Co 4/21st Inf during 67-68 and also during 70-71, E Co 1/20th Inf during 66-67 while they were in Hawaii. Contact "Sgt. Mike" at his home [REDACTED] Albans, W.Va. 25111

Tony Percoskie who was a door gunner with the 178th Aviation is looking for any grunts that can recall a fire-fight that took place on May 12 1968 at a place called Kham-Duc. He writes that his outfit was making a tactical extraction of members of the 196th Brigade and the first ship going in was shot down. The pilot was Captain Joe Sturtavant and one of the gunners was Harry Studebaker who jumped from the ship before impact, injuring his leg. Any grunts out there who were present at this action and the following battle in which Kham-Duc was eventually over run by the 2nd NVA Division should contact Tony at [REDACTED] N.J. 07428.

Dan "The Crook" Straight who served with your Vietnam Editor in A Co 1/6th Infantry 198th Bde. sent in the following photo of some grunts in his squad. The very night that this photo was taken, the platoon was assaulted at this position and heavy casualties were sustained. Identified in the photo from left to right, Glen Nelson- wounded, Gene Whitley- wounded, Joe Britt- wounded, Joe Macias- killed, Ricky "bear" Bowen- wounded and later killed after returning to the unit, and Ed Luken who was the only one of this group to make it through the night unwounded.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the survivors listed or of the following men, Edward Tinsley and Carl "Jack" Boyer, contact Dan at [REDACTED] Ft. Collins, Co. 80525.



THE
VIETNAM BOOKSTORE
(OPERATED BY THE VIETNAM WAR NEWSLETTER)

POST OFFICE BOX 122, COLLINSVILLE, CONNECTICUT 06022

Dear Mr. Dunphy;

I am doing research for a novel dealing with the Vietnam War.

One of the book's major characters is based on the experiences of a close friend, Marvin Reinhardt Jr., who served with the Americal Division in Quang Tri Province. He was attached to the 198th Light Infantry Brigade, First Battalion, 52nd Infantry. During his tour, 1970-71, he served in the First Battalion's commo platoon on "LZ Stinson

Any information on the First of the 52nd's operations during this time frame and area of operations, operation maps, any details on LZ Stinson, or the battalion itself that the Americal Division could provide would be greatly appreciated. Send any info to;

Kenneth E. Ethridge

[REDACTED] Royal Oak, MI 48073

Dear sir;

Enclosed is my money for joining your association. I served in the 123rd Aviation Bn. "Co B" in Vietnam. I would like to hear from anyone that served with me.

Stephen W. Ratcliffe

[REDACTED] Enon, OH 45323

Dear Ron;

I was wondering if you could locate a former buddy of mine? His name is Dave Placenta formerly of 1/46 Infantry Americal Division. He is from Fort Wayne, Indiana. I lost his address.

Thank you,
Ronald W. Christy

[REDACTED] New Middletown,
Ohio 44442

Thank you again, I enjoy the organization very much. Former 196th LIB.

SERVED IN RUSSIA

Landing Zone Siberia, the Americal Division's strategic fire support base, located on Hill 165 about 25 miles north of Tam Ky, got that name because of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, a part of the famous Americal Division, served in Siberia during World War I.

The name was chosen by LTC Robert B. Longino, who commanded the unit in 1969, in Vietnam. The unit landed in Vladivostok, in southeastern Siberia on August 21, 1918. Their mission was to guard the Trans-Siberian Railway against other military factions competing for power inside Russia. The unit was withdrawn in April 1920, and returned to the United States.

Ten years later in 1930, the "Polar Bear" Regimental crest was adopted as their emblem. This was to recognize their outstanding Russian service. The unit continued the same tradition in Vietnam too. The 31st was recognized as one of the best Regiments during the Vietnam War.

Dear Americal vets;

Your Vietnam Editor would like to thank the many members who showed up at the Chicago Vietnam Vets Welcome Home Parade. I had a feeling that this one would be a big one due to the central location of Chicago and you all helped to make the weekend the biggest so far, even topping the attendance at the dedication of the "Wall" in Washington. The parade organizers had predicted a turn-out of 100,000 men but we proved them wrong by sending 200,000 on a march through the downtown streets. We were led by retired General William Westmoreland and a legless veteran who dragged himself the entire length. I doubt if much work was conducted in the business district that day as it seemed that every office window was filled with pretty women throwing confetti or kisses. The Americal contingent was a couple of hours behind the start of the parade but the enthusiasm was still high when we passed the reviewing stand. It was hard to tell who was cheering the loudest, the spectators or us. The excitement was so high that its difficult for me to describe. One would have to be there to believe everything that happened.

Following the parade which ended at Grant Park, the scene of some ugly anti-war protests during the 60's, we were treated to some top notch entertainment by a dozen or more rock bands, solo singers, balladeers, etc. By nightfall, the weather turned cool and wet but that didnt stop anyone from having a good time. Seems like the party went on all night.

Meanwhile back at the Mart Plaza Holiday Inn, the Americal Division hospitality room went full blast and non-stop for practically the entire weekend. Every Army division had a hospitality room somewhere in town that week and I think I visited all of them but never found one that was as well equipped as ours. A Chicago resident and 196th vet, Jim Hogan, deserves the bulk of the credit for making our room such a success. Jim made all the advance arrangements for the beer and a delicious supply of catered food on the first evening. Word got around in a hurry and we were visited by vets from nearly every other division, even the "Jar-Heads". Jim is a recently signed up member to the Association and I expect that well be hearing more from him in the future. Our hats are off to Jim and all the other Americal vets who helped out with hauling those beer kegs and chow to the room.

In addition to the parade and entertainment, we paid our respects to 80 Medal of Honor winners who attended a dinner at the Holiday Inn and marched as a group in the parade. Seeing that many men together that were awarded the Medal is a sight guaranteed to give you a warm feeling. The Americal Division in Vietnam had the distinction of 11 men who were awarded the Medal. Four of those men lived to tell about it.

The POW-MIAs werent forgotten during our celebration. On Saturday afternoon we held a remembrance for them at Daly Plaza. One of their greatest supporters, ADVA member Mike Standerfer, was present and could be found in the thick of the activities. Mike hasnt given up the faith and Im sure hes working on another project to top his walk to the Alamo in support of the MIAs last year.

For those vets who havent been able to visit the Wall in Washington, we were fortunate enough to view the "Mini-Wall" that was erected in Grant Park. Its a half scale replica of the original and quite a moving sight to view.

Well men, that about sums up the good time we had. Those of you who werent able to attend missed an opportunity that probaly wont come around again. Chicago will be hard to top.

In this coming November on Veterans Day, Ill be setting up a hospitality room at the Hotel Washington which is within walking distance of the Vietnam War Memorial. In the next newsletter Ill be providing some more details on this. Try to make it. Keep the faith, Your Brother

Ron Ward

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Anthony R. Andre
182nd Infantry
Brookline, MA

Robert H. Casey
Associate Member
Brookline MA

*Ralph K. Franklin
Military Intelligence Det
Windsor, VT

William C. Howard
Associate Member
Lynn, MA

*Herman W. Voellings
160th Maintenance
Worcester, MA

*Vietnam Veteran

SUMMARY

533 Life Members

462 World War II

63 Vietnam

8 Associates

NEW MEMBERS

*Herb Pierce
Pt. Orange, FL
198th LIB
Michael L. Matalik

* John Auciello
Princeton, NJ
11th LIB
Dennis Matthews

*Todd W. Regan
Sauk Village, IL
196th LIB
Ron Ward

* John DeGroot
Chicago, IL
198th LIB
Ron Ward

* Franklin F. Reinier
Highwood, IL
11th LIB
Ron Ward

* David A. Frazier
Chicago, IL
1st CAV
Ron Ward

*Peter G. Tenayck
Palatine, IL
11th LIB
Ron Ward

* James L. Highland
Mattoon, IL
196th LIB
Michael L. Matalik

*James N. Baird
Rock City Falls NY
1/82 Arty
Ron Ward

* John J. Leahy
Avalon, NJ
198th LIB
Richard Drapczuk

* Roger D. Barney
McArthur, OH
1st Cav
Robert K. Radune

* Richard P. Mosher
Waukegan, IL
196th LIB
Ron Ward

*Walter Clark Jr.
Hanover Park, IL
198th LIB
Ron Ward

* Kenneth Musselman
Huntington Beach, CA
198th LIB
Roland T. Castranova

Maurice Faul
Church Point, LA
246th FA
Herbert L. Murphy

Leroy G. Chilson
Imperial Beach, CA
164th INF
Lloyd Morrell

(Continued next page)

NEW MEMBERS (Continued)

*Steven J. Fredendall
Janesville, WI
176th Avn Co
#Ron Ward

*Bruce T. Hundley
Southfield, MI
63rd Inf Plt
Combat Trackers
#Herbert L. Murphy

* Charles F. King
Kansas City, MO
198th LIB
#Darrell Hott

Peter A. Mastriroio
Hollywood, FL
121st Med Bn
#Mike Lapardo

*Bernie G. Moveda
San Bernardino, CA
198th LIB
#Darrell Hott

*John R. Roggenkamp
Brooklyn, NY
#Paul Coyne

Clyde C. Smith
Hammond, IN
125th QM
#Self

*Joe Alejandro Jr.
Houston, TX
11th LIB
#Edward W. Marsh

Fernando Vera
Oxnardo, CA
182nd INF
#Self

*James L. Brown
Austin, TX
198th LIB
#Ron Ward

Robert H. Casey
Brookline, MA
Associate
#William L. Dunphy

Anthony R. Andre
Brookline, MA
182nd INF
#Self

*Robert D. Brown
Dunwoody, GA
198th LIB
#Roland Castranova

*Danny L. Banfield
Cerritos, CA
11th LIB
#Ron Ward

William E. McCormick
Wachapreague, VA
182nd INF
#Joseph Marotta

Loy M. Robinson
Memphis, TN
Finance Dept
#Self

Richard A. Hartman
Canoga Park, CA
246th FA
#E. R. Horton

*Otis Bryan England
Bettendorf, IO
123rd AVN BN
#Ron Ward

*Jay C. Fenstermacher
Santa Ana, CA
198th LIB
#Vet Center Anaheim

Paul Coyne
Brooklyn, NY
11th LIB
#Robert Taormino

*Michael Fightmaster
Edmond, Ok
23rd MP
#Darrell Hott

* Vietnam Veteran
Sponsor

***** CONVALESCING AT HOME *****

Rev. John S. Franklin
[REDACTED]
East Wareham, Mass.
02538

JAMES J. FLYNN
[REDACTED]
Belmont, Mass.
02178

How about sending a card to an old friend?

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP A NEW MEMBER?

TAPS

EDWARD BROWNSTEIN
Roslindale, Mass.

101 QM
May 17, 1986

EUGENE L. PERULLO
Revere, Mass.
21st Recon
June 6, 1986

GRANVILLE P. GARDNER
Weymouth, Mass.
182nd Infantry
July 21, 1986

GERALD (JAKE) RUDISILL
Badin, North Carolina
182nd Infantry
July 1986

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Dear Mr. Dunphy;

My family and I wish to thank you and the other gentlemen of the Americal Division for the beautiful tribute given to my husband. We were very impressed by your sending the flags to the funeral home. We want to thank all of our friends who came and sent beautiful cards, also all who sent cards and called him on the telephone when he was sick. We miss him dearly. He was a very good man. We would like to thank the priest that called and remembered him at Mass. Again thank you Bill for your thoughtfulness and prayers. God be with you.

Nellie Perullo

P.S. Thanks for visiting him. He loved the Americal and all of you men.

OUTFIT REUNIONS

164th INFANTRY ASSOCIATION

Williston, North Dakota -- October 10 -12, 1986

CONTACT

Jerry Wilder
[REDACTED]
Williston, North Dakota
58801

ATTENTION

The All Veterans Centennial Memorial Association invites you to participate in the erection of a monument to all of the North Dakota people who served in the Armed Forces during our first one hundred years of statehood and in particular to the three thousand six hundred North Dakotans who gave their lives in the service of our country. Send donation to:

All Veterans Centennial Memorial Assc.
[REDACTED]

Bismarck, ND
58502

Important Dues Information

Forget-Me-Nots WHAT HAVE I DONE TO DESERVE THIS!

YOUR DUES STATUS

YOUR ANNUAL DUES ARE PAYABLE

AMERICAL
VETERANS
FOUNDED

DIVISION
ASSOCIATION
1945



THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

John E. Doe

IS A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING OF THIS
ASSOCIATION. MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES May 1987

No 1640

William L. Murphy
NATIONAL ADJUTANT

THIS IS YOUR CARD IN ADVANCE

Help us keep cost low with prompt payment
DUES IS \$6.00

The above Membership Card is a sample of what we mail in ADVANCE of your payment of DUES. Please note this was mailed May 1986 and expires May 1987. This system has worked out very well but we do have people who do not cooperate and the card below is the follow up.

YOUR ANNUAL DUES ARE PAYABLE

Your 1986-1987 dues are overdue

..... 3. months

Card no. 1640 was mailed in advance

Last May..... please remit \$6.00

FOR YOUR ANNUAL DUES.

Help us keep cost low with prompt payment.

This card is mailed to all DELINQUENT MEMBERS in intervals of (3) months (6) months and (9) months PLUS a letter to remit \$12.00 to Headquarters - \$6.00 for the back DUES plus \$6.00 for the next years DUES. If we do not hear in 30 days the name is removed from the ROSTER

PLEASE NOTE THE COST TO COLLECT \$6.00 cost the ADVA 22¢ plus the form cost plus the labor to mail. It is just not worth all this to collect \$6.00 if you are going to spend almost a \$1.00. This is if we make four mailing and we have 38 delinquent September members at present who received their first notice last September 1985

Don't keep it a SECRET, Let us know
Clip and mail to
Americal Newsletter

Boston, MA., 02104

ADDRESS
CHANGE?

NAME _____

NEW ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

At the National Convention the Executive Council discussed the problem of delinquent DUES and the cost and time to collect \$6.00. The following new method was APPROVED.

1. Mail the Membership card in advance as in the past
2. NO MORE MAILED DELINQUENT DUES NOTICES. Use the Newsletter and print the overdue card numbers for (3) issues and then drop the member from the ROSTER.

EXAMPLE: Card mailed for 1986-1987 Dues in May of 1986. Expiring May 1987

1st Notice July-Aug 1986

2nd Notice Sept-Oct 1986

*3rd Notice Nov-Dec 1986

*FINAL NOTICE

We published the card numbers in the May-June Newsletter that the past due "September" would be dropped from the Roster but with the new system we are holding for an additional (30) Days from the date of the mailing of this Newsletter.

FINAL NOTICE

1985-1986 Dues Notices to expire Sept
1986 - Mailed September 1985

1480	1495	1466	1461	1459	1446	1439
1429	1420		1417		1401	1404
	1381	1382	1374	1344	1341	1335
1330	1326	1321	1318	1307	1327	1311
1278	1286	1291	1290	1268	1256	1265
1263	1247	1238				

2ND NOTICE

1986-1987 Dues Notices to expire Jan
1987 - Mailed January 1986

1197	1169	1168	534	1185	1172	1163
1175	1155	1143	1134	1120	1119	1106
1103	1086	1092	1081	1090	1069	1056
1058	1054	1041	1037	1035	1034	1025
1002	999	995	989	1006	987	985
984	979	966	952	958	948	946
943	941	937	934	949	945	
932	921	913	907	904	925	918
884	894	893				

1ST NOTICE

1986-1987 Dues Notices to expire May
1987 - Mailed May 1986

503	507	513	526	510	520	523
519	536	561	564	548	549	1151
565	573	587	589	590	604	631
635	624	645		649	647	650
	678	682	684	677	683	691
695	707	714	715	717	731	737
752	744	732	745	760	802	824
818	823	835	838	844	852	845

National Adjutant

Letters

The following two letters were received at National Headquarters and I believe they speak for themselves about the vast amount of work that went into the Museum since the dedication on May 19, 1979 under the direction of our past Director Hector L. D'Amato, who ate, slept and lived the Americal Museum. Hector had the help of fifty dedicated curators who over the past years have given their time and talents freely. Our present director, Ken Turner, for the past year, with the help of the fifty curators has carried on the standards and long range planning of Hector to build a Museum we can all be proud of.

Thursday Night
July 1, 1986

Dear Americal Buddies of the Americal Museum:

To say a humble thank you for the pictures, the hospitality of the Americal mystique and showing us around, does not seem very worthy, but all of Marge's and my thanks for rescuing the errant purse really does deserve some prayers for you.

Keeping the Americal Memories alive deserve a good job well done. We shall tell Senator Dyer we say the Flag of the sovereign state of Missouri in company with the other colors of the 49 state flags.

Thank you again.

Jim & Marge Williams
Missouri - 246th FA Btry

Sir: Please accept enclosed check for Life Membership. I just received the Newsletter and saw the large list of new Life Members and then figures it was time for me to take advantage of the bargain.

The middle of June my wife Helen and I made our first visit to Massachusetts. Had an enjoyable week visiting all the historic sites and of course that included Fort Devens and the Americal Museum. We were a little too early so we did a little tour of the camp and a bite to eat in the cafeteria. When we returned to the Museum the door was opened and Frank Diorio and Jim (can't recall last name but was a Nam Vet) was there to greet us. After exchanging names etc. and the tour we sat and just had a very enjoyable visit.

You know Frank is also quite a salesman for I came away with an Americal Cap and a couple of other mementoes which I will wear with pride. I am proud to be a member of this fine organization and only sorry that I don't live closer to be an active member.

Those boys who work the Museum detail really deserve a pat on the back.

We will be back for another visit. - Sincerely,

Harry & Helen Milne
Pennsylvania - 247 FA Btry C
& Hq & Hq

The above is a small sample of the letters we receive at Headquarters. The Curators' time and efforts are well spent and appreciated by the Membership.

National Adjutant

"TOGETHER THEN,
TOGETHER AGAIN"

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

RETURNED MAIL: At the National Convention the Executive Council discussed the problem of the large amount of returned mail each time a mailing is made. The March-April Newsletter had over sixty (60) returns which cost the Organization per letter - 12½¢ to mail, 30¢ to accept back and 39¢ to remail; a total cost of 81½¢ per Newsletter. Also Note - there are some members that change their address two to three times each year and never notify the National Headquarters. Must be a rub-off from their army days!

The following new method was Approved:

When a member is prompt in sending us his new address, we will of course remail his Newsletter. BUT if a member's mail is returned by the Postoffice marked No Forwarding Address, and we have not been notified we will NOT remail this Newsletter.

REPEAT: We will NOT remail this Newsletter.

I wish to thank those members who have notified us when they move or those who have a winter and a summer address so we can switch their cards for the season changeover.

PLEASE NOTE: The May - June Newsletter has so far had over thirty (30) returns and there will be more. For DUES of only \$6.00 per year it is not worth the cost of 81½¢ per Newsletter to remail if you do not wish to cooperate and help us to keep our costs down.

PLEASE USE THE ADDRESS CORRECTION FORM POSTED IN THE NEWSLETTER (on another page) FOR THAT NEW ADDRESS

National Adjutant

EDITOR'S ERROR and an apology for the oversight in not reporting the following in the May - June Newsletter:

Harry Corliss who has had two major operations in the past few months is on the mend and has requested that we print a nice bit THANK YOU to all his friends who sent cards and called his home from near and far inquiring of his health while he was convalescing.

Editor's Note: Harry is a past officer and a curator at the Museum since the day one. I could not guess how many hours of dedication Harry has given to the Americal and the Museum. I would say that he was one of Hector's right-hand men. Glad to see that Harry is on the mend.

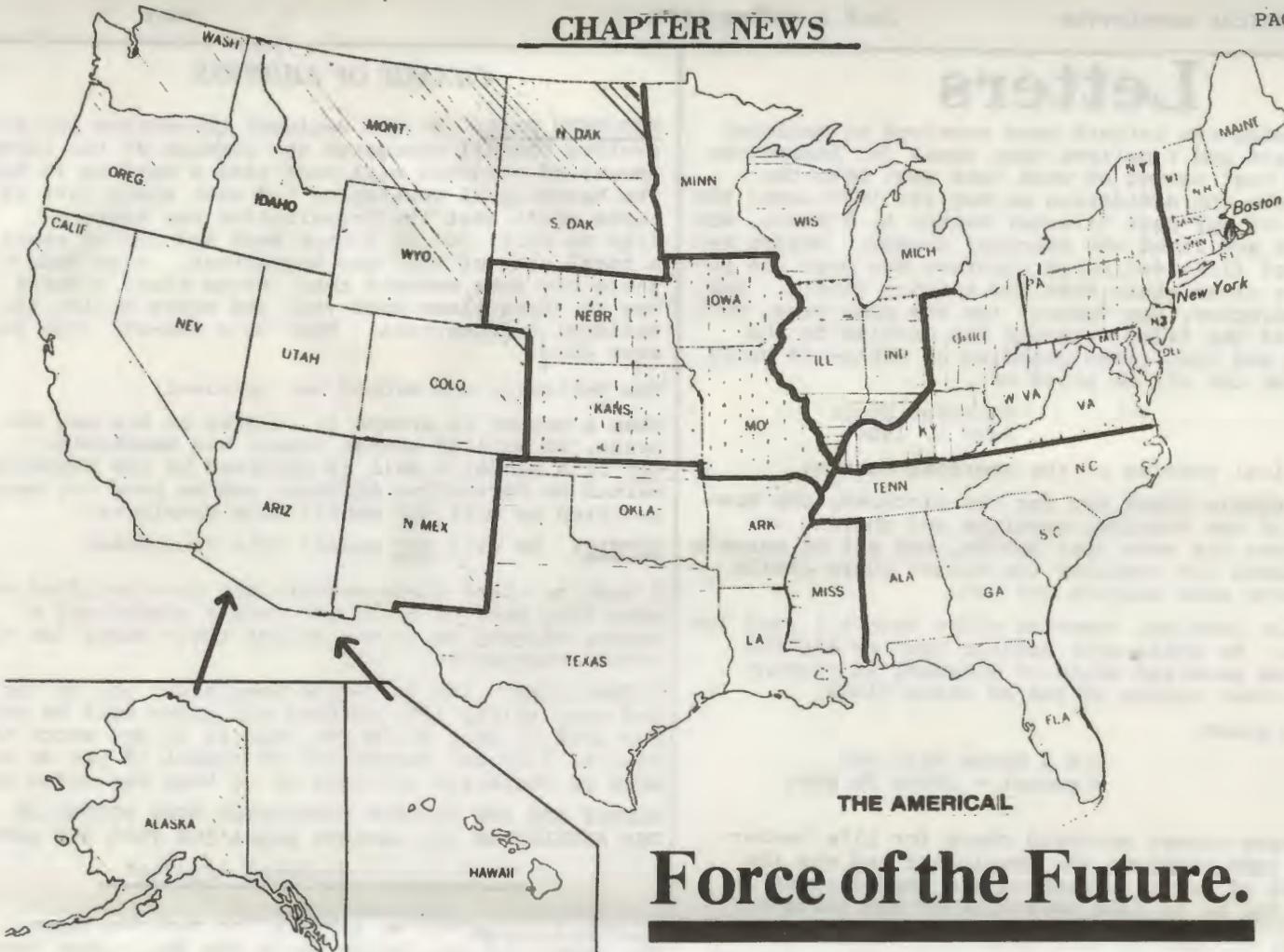
INFORMATION REQUESTED:

The 1st Infantry Regiment is holding it's First Regimental Dining-In at Ft. Lewis, WA on 19 Sep 1986. Anyone having served in the 1st Regiment (2d Battalion) please contact:

1 LT. Kennedy E. Jenkins
2d Battalion (LA), 1st Infantry

PH. [REDACTED]

DON'T BREAK
FAITH WITH
OUR
POW-MIA



EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER

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

REGIONAL COMMANDER: Robert T. Hock
Reading, PA 19601

Tel # [REDACTED]

GREAT LAKES CHAPTER

IL, IN, MI, MN, WI

REGIONAL COMMANDER: Herbert L. Murphy
Saginaw, MI., 48604

Tel # [REDACTED]

SOUTH EAST CHAPTER

AL, FL, GA, NC, SC, TN

REGIONAL COMMANDER: Ed A. Heartquist
Tarpon Springs
Florida, 33589

Tel # [REDACTED]

CENTRAL MID WEST CHAPTER

IA, KS, MO, NE

CONTACT: Ron L. Ward
St Louis, MO., 63123

PLEASE GET INVOLVED IN YOUR CHAPTER - CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

FAR WEST CHAPTER

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

REGIONAL COMMANDER: Lloyd J. Morrell
Pleasant Hill, CA., 94523

Tel # [REDACTED]

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

COMMANDER: Norman Mullen
Perris, CA., 94523

Tel # [REDACTED]

WILLIAM F. MCGOLDRICK- CAPE COD CHAPTER

PLYMOUTH & WAREHAM & SOUTH OF THE CAPE
COD CANAL

COMMANDER: Bernard C. Chase
So Yarmouth, MA., 02664

Tel # [REDACTED]

SOUTH MID WEST CHAPTER

AK, LA, MS, OK, TX

CONTACT: VACANT

CHAPTER NEWS

EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER

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

EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER

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

REGIONAL COMMANDER: Robert T. Hock
Reading, PA., 19601

Tel # [REDACTED]

Through the efforts of Harold Stein and George C. Yates, we now have a time and a place for the Pittsburgh Reunion in 1986.

DATE: Friday & Saturday
September 23-27, 1986

PLACE: Sheraton Hotel at Station Square (Across from the Golden Triangle) FREE PARKING

COST: \$65.00 per night (single or double)

Send reservations to; Sheraton Hotel
Carson & Smithfield St
Pittsburg, PA 15219

State double or single room and date and time of arrival. Also state that you are an Americal Division Veteran. Deadline date Sept 12, 1986

FAR WEST CHAPTER

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

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

JUNE 1987-The Biggest Little City In The World
For those who have not yet got the "latrine rumor" please be advised that the ADVA Executive Committee accepted my invitation to host the 1987 National Convention. I have selected Reno, due to it's more central location, it's compactness for people to get around and for the extra special events that will be taking place during the time of the Convention. Beginning June 19th and ending June 28th you will be enthralled by the Western Days activities that take place all over town, with the top ranked Reno rodeo starting June 23rd to 28th. I am hoping the Far West Chapter members will extend themselves for their Eastern tenderfoot brethren and get behind this 100%. This is the first time the National affairs has ever been held outside New England. We intend to concentrate on a full program for the ladies, starting with a course at the fully accredited Reno-Tahoe Gameing Academy, to learn all the fundamentals of WINNING. This and much, much more will make this an exciting vacation for everyone, so make your plans now to include this in your vacation plans for 1987. I will promise everyone a good time.

Lloyd J. Morrell
Regional Commander
Far West Chapter

SEE ENCLOSED FLYER FOR ALL CALIFORNIA ROUNDUP

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

COMMANDER: Norman Mullen
[REDACTED]

Perris, CA 94523
Tel # 1-714-943-2726

Note; See Far West News for coming events.

WILLIAM F. McGOLDRICK - CAPE COD CHAPTER

Plymouth & Wareham & South of Cape Cod Canal

COMMANDER: Bernard C. Chase
[REDACTED]

So, Yarmouth, MA 02664
Tel # [REDACTED]

Meetings are held at the Dennis F. Thomas V.F.W. Post #2578 the second Monday of each month, except June and July, TIME 1:00 P.M.

GREAT LAKES CHAPTER

REGIONAL COMMANDER: Herbert L. Murphy
[REDACTED]

Saginaw, MI 48604
Tel # [REDACTED]

SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

AL, FL, GA, NC, SC, TN,

REGIONAL COMMANDER: Ed A. Heartquist
[REDACTED]

Tarpon Springs, FL 33589
Tel # [REDACTED]

COMING ATTRACTION: A convention of the Southeast Chapter of the Americal Division Veterans Association will be held in Daytona Beach, Florida on October 10th and 11th 1986 at Perry's Ocean Edge. Perry's is a Motel-Hotel complex with 200 rooms and 700 feet of beach.

Daytona is known as the world's most famous beach and our rooms will be overlooking this famous beach. Our price will be 109.95 for three days and two nights for a double room that is large enough to accomodate six people. This price includes a seven dollar meal ticket per person for each night - plus, all the coffee and doughnuts you want each morning. It is really a good deal so let's take advantage of it, and have the biggest and best gathering in the South-east.

A forty dollar deposit is required, and mail directly to Perry's as soon as possible. A deposit is necessary to hold the rooms, so do it now and mention that you are a member of the ADVA. If there are any questions please contact me and I'll try to come up with an answer.
SEE YOU THERE!

CONTACT: Perry's Ocean Edge
[REDACTED]

Daytona, FL 32018
[REDACTED] (out of State)
[REDACTED] (in Florida)

Edwin A. Heartquist
Regional Commander

V - J DAY 1986

August 15, 1986 will mark the 41st anniversary of the end of hostilities between United States and Japan in World War II. The occasion will probably pass more or less unnoticed by the news media although they gave a big play to the anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima that was held in Japan. (At least the Boston area media did.)

Only one state in the Union, Rhode Island, still observes Japan's World War II surrender as an official holiday. Two small towns in that state, Bristol and Exeter, were the only ones to have any type of celebration. Small groups of veterans in both towns gathered to mark the occasion.

The Americal division was on Cebu at the time of the surrender and the official history, "Under The Southern Cross" gives a brief story on the surrender.

The following article was sent in by Joseph F. Kruczak, MAJ RET USA. It was printed in the AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE and was written by Robert C. McGiffert.

Mr. McGiffert was with Headquarters of the Americal from Bougainville through Leyte, Cebu and Japan. He is now a Professor of Journalism at the University of Montana.

Many thanks to Mr. McGiffert, The Legion Magazine, and Major Joseph Kruczak for sending in the article and obtaining permission for us to print it.

Surrender On CEBU by Robert C. McGiffert

The Japanese couldn't believe the war was lost ...

It was a ceremonial day, a day made for generals. Seven were on hand: three winners and four losers. The victors and the vanquished faced one another on a wide, grassy field under high summer clouds. Behind the generals, their lieutenants stood in rows. Some distance off, where the ground fell away from the knoll on which the generals stood, the ranks of troops stirred restlessly in the heat. Many were bored, in a hurry to get on with it and on to other things. Many having been disarmed, were disconsolate and fearful.

From the cluster of victorious officers, the senior general stepped forward, an aide at his side. The first of his defeated adversaries unbuckled his sword and handed it to his conqueror, who handed it to his aide. Then one by one, in turn, three other generals and an admiral gave up their swords in token of surrender.

Thus, with time-worn symbolism, another battle receded into history, another vanquished army shuffled forward to captivity.

The date was August 28, 1945, two weeks after the end of World War II. This was the Japanese surrender on Cebu Island, the cigar-shaped, verdant centerpiece of the Visayan Islands of the Central Philippines. With these formalities at the village of Ilihan, a cluster of houses near Cebu's northern tip, nearly 10,000 Japanese survivors of a fierce three-month battle began laying down their arms.

Surrender On CEBU, Continued

To some observers of the gentlemanly proceedings, the time was out of joint. Like other island battles of the Pacific war, the battle for Cebu had been savagely fought. In 96 days of combat, the Japanese lost more than 9,300 soldiers. The U.S. Army's Americal Division--formed three years earlier in New Caledonia from units of the Massachusetts, Illinois and North Dakota National Guards--suffered 2,400 casualties: 458 dead and missing, 1,969 wounded.

A U.S. soldier who faced capture during this campaign could expect no quarter. Fresh in my own memory that day at Ilihan was the sight of an American infantryman seized by the enemy during an unexpected firefight. When the Japanese withdrew after the skirmish, they left behind his body, decapitated and gored by bayonets. I could not reconcile the courtesies of Ilihan with such barbarity.

The spectacular surrender on Cebu and the artful means by which it was arranged attracted little notice at the time. Indeed, the campaign to drive the Japanese from the Central Philippines was one of the better kept secrets of the war. After General MacArthur's finely orchestrated return to Leyte and the subsequent liberation of Manila and Luzon, the attention of the public was focused farther north, on Iwo Jima, Okinawa and the islands of Japan itself. By August 28, the day of commotion at Ilihan, Emperor Hirohito's capitulation was two weeks old; U.S. troops and ships were hustling north to occupy the enemy's home islands, and the surrender for which the world had waited--in Tokyo Bay, aboard the battleship Missouri--still lay ahead.

But to those who witnessed it, the dénouement at Ilihan was bizarre. To begin with, the surrender was difficult to arrange because the Japanese on Cebu didn't know the war was over. They were isolated in a corner of the island, without working radios. When Hirohito called upon his troops to end the fighting, his message did not reach Cebu.

The Americal Division's commander, Maj. Gen. William H. Arnold, tried to get it through by air drop. On August 16, thousands of leaflets rained down on the Japanese sanctuaries. The message was both a news bulletin and an invitation to surrender.

"Japanese forces throughout the world have surrendered by order of his August Majesty, the Emperor of Japan," it stated. "On 14 August 1945, it was officially proclaimed that Japanese wherever they might be would lay down their arms, having realized that peace was the only solution to a hopeless cause.

"Now that your Emperor has come to an honorable agreement, we feel that you on Cebu should come to us as we have always wanted you to. In the past some of you have taken advantage of our guarantees of fair and kind treatment. Now that hostilities have ceased, lay down your arms and come to us. You will be treated fairly according to the rules of the Hague and Geneva Conventions.

Continued on next Page

Surrender on CEBU, Continued

There is one point where you can assemble and be collected: Sacsac. Come to the above point unarmed during daylight hours waving this leaflet."

The Japanese, lacking aircraft, used a tree for their reply. On August 17, they nailed a message to it: "We do not believe your propaganda."

Again General Arnold struck from the air. His new leaflets expressed hurt that his integrity was doubted. Then they invited the Japanese commander, Lt. Gen. Sadashi Kataoka, to send an emissary to U.S. headquarters to determine whether U.S. victory claims were true.

Again Kataoka replied by tree. His message, nailed at the roadside where it would be found by American patrols, set a time and a place for a meeting. And so at noon on August 20, a Japanese lieutenant named Hosaka and four enlisted men, followed by a band of about 40 curious Filipinos, clumped around a bend in the road near the village of Sacsac and advanced under a Rising Sun flag to meet a party of half a dozen Americans. With the help of a Nisei interpreter, Hosaka and U.S. Maj. Raymond Chesley exchanged greetings and agreed on details of Hosaka's imminent trip. Then the lieutenant bade his comrades goodbye and got into a jeep for a 30-mile ride to get the bad news. During his overnight stay at division headquarters, Hosaka talked to interpreters and listened to broadcasts from Japan. He reported back to General Kataoka that the war was over.

Kataoka sent another note to Arnold. "I received your kind message from First Lieutenant Hosaka," it said. "I have faith in your veracity and am positively convinced that Japan has surrendered. I wish to express my sincere thanks for the kind treatment accorded the lieutenant."

Over the next few days, the surrender at Ilihan was arranged.

The formalities of surrender were scheduled for 10 a.m., but for hours before that the road from the north was clogged with Japanese. In they marched to the assembly area, armed with rifles, mortars, grenades and machine guns. On command, they stacked their weapons, then spread out in ranks across the field. Many soldiers carried small white boxes containing ashes of friends. Despite the ordeal of isolation and siege, the Japanese troops were neatly dressed. So were the Japanese army nurses who marched in with them and whose appearance sent a wave of surprise through the Americans at the scene. We had not known that women were among the enemy on Cebu.

With all the enemy troops disarmed and in the field, facing Americal detachments, General Kataoka led three other generals and an admiral to the knoll between the massed soldiers. There they stood in line while a dozen unit commanders and staff officers formed a double rank behind them.

Continued next column

Surrender on CEBU continued

Then, from the road at the field's edge, General Arnold strode forward, followed by three files of unit commanders, staff officers and interpreters.

On the knoll, he faced his former adversaries. Within moments, their swords were his.

General Kataoka then went to a house at Ilihan and signed the surrender instrument that formally turned over 2,667 officers and men to American control. in the course of the next three days, an additional 7,200 Japanese were disarmed at other assembly points in northern Cebu.

These troops had not marched to Ilihan, though their commanders had been there. Those commanders had stood on the knoll with General Kataoka and, like him, had unbuckled their sabers and turned them in.

Thus did a genteel silence settle on the bloody battlefields of Cebu. *****

There is an organization in Japan known as the Liloan Kai and it is made up of former members of the Japanese Army that served on Cebu and Surrendered to the Americal. Previous Newsletters have carried articles about these men. Through the efforts of our previous Editor, Bill McLaughlin, we are in contact with this organization. One of these men, Rev. John Oishi, and the following is a story that was written in the Quincy Patriot Ledger.

On a recent visit to Tokyo your Editor had the pleasure of meeting Rev. Oishi and his former comrade-in-arms George Fukui. George is a business man in Tokyo. More about that later -- on with the story--

Ex-G.I., Japanese Soldier Meet, Discuss Battle Days

Bill McLaughlin, Formerly of Milton, now living in East Falmouth, and the Rev. John Tsuguo Oishi of the United Church of Christ in Tokyo, Japan, recently had lunch together at the Harvard Club in Boston.

Born in Japan, Rev. Oishi, had been brought up in California but returned to Japan to attend college. When the war broke out, he was drafted into the Army.

Along the years since World War II, as passions cooled, Oishi wrote to the Veterans of Foreign Wars magazine seeking assistance in contacting American veterans of the Americal Division involved in action in and around the Cebu-Leyte area.

Through this medium, the two men were brought into lengthly correspondence.

McLaughlin is the editor and national historian of the Americal Division Association. Oishi is a member of the Japanese veterans organization called, "Liloan Kai"--meaning the veteran's group.

Both men had fought in the Philippines in World War II, McLaughlin with the Americal Division and Oishi with a Japanese unit. Oishi still carries a carbine slug in his back.

Continued on Page 12.

Ex-G.I., Japanese Soldier Meet (cont'd)

"I carried an M-1 (Garand) rifle so I assured him it wasn't me that hit him," McLaughlin said.

McLaughlin, who had served in the Americal Division's artillery, was transferred to a reconnaissance unit. Oishi served in a student group and landed on Leyte in 1943. He retreated with his unit from Ormoc across the island to an area in the northwest corner where McLaughlin's unit, 21st Recon Troop of the Americal Division engaged them. Falling back still further, Oishi's group anchored itself in the outskirts of Cebu City until late May or June when napalm, bombing and infantry attacks dislodged them.

McLaughlin said that in comparing notes with Oishi he found that both of them (at different times, of course) had slept in the same building, a former church school in Liloan--a small town in which the Japanese unit's headquarters were located. Over the luncheon, the two soldiers relived those days of battle in the Philippines.

Oishi complimented McLaughlin on returning a flag taken from a dead Japanese soldier to the victim's family.

"It was a highly laudable act," Oishi told McLaughlin. "Such items are of great sentimental value to the family of the deceased, because the remains of the Japanese dead were left behind on the battlefields and the remains could not be identified and recovered after the war in a great majority of the cases."



McLaughlin also has been corresponding with another Japanese, George Fukui, who went to school in the United States and upon returning to Japan was up caught up in the war.

In one of his letters to McLaughlin, commenting on the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, George Fukui, also a member of "Liloan Kai" said: "Bill, there are a lot of pros and cons on the use of the bomb in hindsight but my argument is that had the Japanese developed the bomb and had the means of delivering it, they certainly would have used it. The Japanese military was intent on expending the lives of 20 million people to defend the mainland and the way the soldiers were forced to resist to the end I would say that the atom bomb was inevitable--the people of Hiroshima sacrificed their lives and saved the lives of millions."

VETERANS UPDATE

Your Editor is involved in a lengthy correspondence with Vernon Pierce a former member of the 147th Infantry. This unit was at one time part of the 37th Division, Ohio National Guard and it was cut loose from that Division when the old square divisions were streamlined. The 147th had long and active career in the Pacific during the war.

According to the Americal history the 147th was attached to the Americal at one time during the battle for Guadalcanal. For some unknown reason the casualties that the 147 suffered on the "Canal were listed in the Americal history under the 132nd Infantry "Roll of Honor".

Vernon had pursued this matter long before I became involved and as yet to find a satisfactory answer. I am still doing research on the subject and would appreciate any help a member might be able to give.

In the meantime I will print the name of these departed comrades below;

IN MEMORY

To these gallant men who gave their live in the service of their country

Lt. Harold E. Chadwick	Pfc. Joseph Maloney
S/Sgt. Gail E. Fox	Pfc. Jack Ferguson
Sgt. William H. Woodcock	Pvt. Albert Dubois
Sgt. John P. Singleton	Pvt. Harold W. Massie
Sgt. John T. Brauning	Pvt. Roger M. Hatfield
Cpl. Clarence L. Rife	Pvt. James R. Montague
Pfc. Martin L. Forsberg	Sgt. James S. Watters
Pfc. Frankly T. Crawley	Sgt. Gerald E. Wallingford
Pfc. Kenneth A. Quigley	Cpl. William Shearer
Pfc. Stanley Anthony	Pfc. Lonnie Bell
Pfc. Charles W. Casey	Pvt. Vincent J. Rotchford
Pfc. Lawrence Null	Pvt. John Cellini

WE GIVE OUR THANKS

We are sorry to learn of the death of the brother of Harry Corliss. Albert Corliss, of California, was instrumental in obtaining the State of Oregon flag for the Americal Museum. May we at this time express our deepest sympathy to Harry and the family of Albert Corliss.

MUSEUM MESSAGE

This summer we have received a few more articles for display in our museum. Please remember to have names of people and places on articles left for display.

We have had several generous donations this summer from the following;

LTC Lew Doyle (Ret) San Antonio, Texas
 Otto F. Boehmig Turtle Creek, Penn.
 William Pukalo Canterbury, Conn.
 Edward Largess West Brookfield, Mass.

I wish to thank them on behalf of our organization.

Kenneth R. Turner
 Museum Director

Letters to the Editor

Hi Bill,
Have a bit of news for you! I don't remember if I told you about my giving some information to a professor and his wife from Australia who wrote a book about the G.I.'s in Australia during World War II. His name is E. Daniel Potts and wife Annette. The book covers the years 1941 thru 1945. All the material was gathered from interviews, old letters, diaries and other sources during travels after the war thru the United States, Australia, New Guinea and New Zealand etc.

I met him through a member of my Church who spent some time in Australia. Prof. Potts and his wife spent some time at my friends home here in Detroit and that's how I met Potts. Well, I gave him some information from an interview and also from a diary I had kept from our overseas venture. This was a couple of years ago and now the book has been published "YANKS DOWN UNDER" and my wife gave it to me for a Christmas present. It is the first time for me to have my name published in a book and I was really thrilled.

As Ever,
Gil Abele
121st Med. Bn.

Dear Bill,

Just to let you know what a great pleasure it was to have you visit me at the West Roxbury V.A. Hospital during my stay there in December. You came back the next night but I hadn't returned from recovery and wasn't quite with it -- sorry about that.

I enjoyed our get together with Harry Corliss and just talking about the Americal--what else! I wonder if we could have that Ward named the Americal Ward? Three of us were patients including Skiffington from the 182 HD

I must say that the veterans Auxillaries are doing a great service for the veterans. It's nice to know someone cares.

I'm going to let the whole world know that you drove Harry Corliss all the way to Medford, then drove yourself home. You are the driving force behind the Americal family. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

I'm coming along very well after my Hernia operation. I'll be making further recovery when I go to Florida. While there I'll attempt a spearhead on some of our Americal friends we spoke about.

I called the hospital this past Monday to inquire about Harry Corliss and his by-pass. He was in recovery and doing well. I called again today and they had him sitting up--that's the Americal spirit! I'm sending Harry a card

Bill, may you and yours and the Americal family have a happy, healthy 1986. Keep up the good work and God bless.

Regards,
Dom Pantaleo

Dear Mr. Dunphy;

A Few of the former members of the HQ, 247th F.A. BN, Americal Division held a reunion in Florida a couple of months ago. We had a surprisingly good turnout in spite of the fact that we only had some two dozen names to work with. We would like to continue our reunions and broaden our attendance and wonder whether we might obtain assistance from the Association. Specifically, we are looking for the names of men who served during World War II with the HQ Battery, 247th F.A. BN. As you probably know our battalion was organized in New Caledonia in 1942 and served in the Solomons and the Phillipines.

Would it be possible for the Association to furnish us with the names of those members who served in our unit? I do not know what system you use for your membership roster but if this could be done we would be most grateful. If your records do not lend themselves to such a search perhaps you could publicize our request in your forthcoming newsletter.

I have recently joined the association and while writing to you I shall permit myself the expression of a disappointment. The writeup of the Americal History contains no mention whatsoever of the 3 105 Howitzer and the 1 155 Howitzer Battalions attached to the Division, mine being one of them. Mention of the Artillery units would in no way take away from the glory of the Infantry Regiments whom we so loyally supported.

I hope you will give my request consideration and thank you in advance for your interest.

Sincerely,
James T. Halom

Edina, MN.
55436

Jim; It is against the policy of the ADVA to give out any addresses without the express permission of a member. Your address has been included in the above at your request and we hope that all interested members will contact you directly.

Editors note; You will notice the artillery mentioned in many places in the Americal history. to mention a few -- Page 74, 75, 84, 94 & 95. And I am sure there are many other places.

National Adjutant;

Card number last year was #60, got a new one with dues request, #735. Is that possible or do they change every year? No response necessary if unimportant. (Card numbers do change. Adj)

Two items to note. First, have chosen life option to save you some annual headaches. Initial pay't enclosed, others will follow at intervals spaced enough to keep wife from saying What! \$100 for dusty old Arm pals! Second, brand new address enclosed.

Continued on Page 14

NOTE; Please send all membership applications and Dues to National Adjutant William Dunphy 247 Willow St. W. Roxbury, MA 02132

LETTERS TO THE Editor (Continued)

One additional point. Was, or should say, I am pleased the way the newsletter is getting more interesting each time it shows up in the mailbox. Even found a couple of things juicy enough to follow up on, the "Redleg" book and the Vietnam Veterans registration thing up in Bridgton, Maine. Thanks for being there.

Douglas Remley
E. Boothbay, Maine

Dear Bill;

Just want to let you know that 13 former members of the 247th F.A. Bn. held a reunion on March 9th. Many of us hadn't seen each other since '45.

The highlight of our meeting was having our original Battalion Commander, Robert E. Moffett, (Brig. Gen. Ret.) in attendance. We have always held him great respect, as he was in our estimation, one of the best officers in W.W.II. The General, now 87, was a Sgt. in W.W. I and served in France.

We met at the Econolodge in Yeehaw Junction, FL, which is just off the turnpike. The management gave us a private dining room with extra tables on which to display our photos and such.

After a leisurely lunch we spent the rest of the afternoon enjoying each others company - a very nostalgic day.



PHOTO: LEFT TO RIGHT: Jack Folmer, Bill Maloney, Martin Conelius, Walter Pierce, Clarence Covey, Irving Seidol, Harlan Hoxie, Gen. Moffett, Eric Wadleigh, Clifford Peterson, Allan Beckstrom. Willard Hines arrived to late for the photo.

Several of the wives were in attendance and enjoyed the meeting as much as the men.

Jack Folmer
Lake Worth, FL

ATTENTION

There will be NO beer served at the Annual Clambake. Due to the prohibitive cost of Liability Insurance we have no other choice. Each individual will be responsible for his own beverage. Clambake Committee.

Dear Sir;

Enclosed is a patch of the 86th Armd Bde. (Vermont National Guard) which is now part of the 50th Armd Div out of New Jersey. I recently visited your museum at Ft. Devens and I enjoyed it very much. There sure has been a tremendous amount of work put in there. I found the museum to be very commendable and I look forward to paying another visit there.

I served with the 172nd Inf. 43rd Inf Div, so going thru the museum brought back many memories to me also. We left San Francisco on 6 Feb 42 and we were listed to go to Guadalcanal in about November or December but we were on the President Coolidge that struck a mine on 26 Oct 42 as we were pulling into the harbor of Espiritu Santo's and the ship sunk taking all of our equipment down with it. The remainder of the Division had gone to New Zealand. They left the States on 1 Oct 42 and our outfit had been made a RCT until we rejoined the 43rd on the Canal. The 1st Mar Div was relieved in Dec 42 and went to Australia and from there to New Britain. The 25th Inf Div came into the Canal in Dec 42 and went into combat on 10 Jan 43. The 43rd Inf Div relieved the Americal in Feb 43 (less the 172nd Inf and its support elements) and we departed the New Hebrides on 21 Mar 43 and arrived on Guadalcanal on 23 Mar 43 where we relieved the 182nd Inf which we were told were going to the Fiji's. From there we went to the Northern Solomons, Rendova and New Georgia and the 25th Inf Div and the 37th Inf Div joined us in our final capture of New Georgia.

I am enclosing a couple of patches to add to that collection as I noticed you did not have a 86th Armd Bde or the 58th Inf Bde. Another fine display is your patch collection. I am also a collector of shoulder patches and military insignia. Thanks again for the privilege of visiting your museum.

SFC Omer L. Neil Ret
Penacook, NH

Dear Bill;

I just received the latest newsletter, March-April and it took me back to Bougainville. I don't know if this guy was in HQ but I ran into him at HQ and Service 121 Med. His name was Lewis B. Friedman and his home address at that time was Chicago, IL. He was selling snapshots that he had taken over there. He had these numbered and I picked out a number of them and paid him. At this time he was due to be rotated back to the States. The deal was he would see that I got the pictures I ordered and paid for, when he got back home. It is forty two years later and I am still waiting for my order.

Mind youk this letter is not to say we are going to worry about a couple of pictures but I just thought of it and I felt like passing it along for the heck of it.

My Wife and I may attend the Clambake if nothing unforeseen turns up. The prices of your reunions are out of reach for me.

Maynard Crouse
Nazareth, PA

P.S. I'm wondering how my old boss is, Santo Ravagno? He was a good boss.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

To Whom It May Concern;

I received a copy of ADVA newsletter about seven years ago from Cecil Carroll who was also in the 125th QM. It was misplaced but never the less here is \$10.00 for dues. If not enough please notify me, if too much please use any left over for any other need -- printing etc.

I joined the 125th on Bougainville, was transferred out when the Americal was to leave Japan for home as I was two points short to come home. I got to leave Japan Christmas Eve of '45.

Sorry to have misplaced this application as past newsletters sure would have helped to have gotten some addresses of some of the fellows, as I intend to retire next year. If all goes as planned we are going to do a lot of travelling and also try and find a lot of fellows.

Thanks for listening and I would be happy to hear any kind of news or see anybody

Thanks again,

Clyde C. Smith

[REDACTED] Hammond, ID 46324

P.S. I was in New England a couple of times in the last ten years but as you know vacations do not permit much time. Lord willing, I'll have time to find people the next time I am in that area.

Hey you guys from the 125 - how about a letter to Clyde

Dear Bill;

Just a short note to thank you again for providing me with the advance information pertaining to the convention-reunion at the Mt. Ascutney Mountain Resort. I'm also dropping a line to Joe Marotta to express my appreciation, not only for his help in sending me details about reservations, etc. at the Hotel, but also for the monumental task of planning the event and the successful fruition of his untiring efforts

Both you veterans made it possible for me to attend without any problems regarding reservations, transportation to Mt Ascutney, ect. from Los Angles

Needless to add I had a marvelous time. Now I'm setting my sights for the convention-reunion tentatively scheduled for the Memorial Day weekend in Reno next year.

This event will be much easier for me to attend, because Los Angles is much closer to Reno than to Boston. I'll be watching the "Newsletter" as Lloyd Morrell discloses more information on that National Convention as the date draws near.

I was happy to learn at the meeting in Vermont that Lloyd's suggestion to have each local chapter of the ADVA sponsor a National Convention was favorably received. This will make it easier for those who, for some reason, are unable to travel across the country to attend a national convention near to their "neck of the woods".

sincerely,

[REDACTED]
121 Med Bn, Co D

Dear Bill & Jim

Enclosed find check for \$25.00 for \$6.00 dues and History book on Americal Div., keep any change for Museum, Many thanks.

I was in the 221st FA Bn from 1943 to 1945 in Fiji Island, Guadalcanal, Leyte, Cebu, Nigros and one of the first soldiers into Kamakura, Japan.

Am enjoying Newsletter very much and remember Bougainville, Hill 260 and Torakina River very clearly also the Million Dollar Hill (Tree?) which looked all Brown Blown Up Dirt Look.

Our readers would like to know about another Million Dollar Bridge on Guadalcanal. It was made of all Mahogany wood. Anyone else remember it?

Many thanks and God's Blessing

Leo Wm. Orfe
Beverly, NJ

I remember a solid mahogany bridge over the Torakina on Bougainville. ED. How about hearing from some Engineers out there? You fellows must have built it.

The GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN VETERANS are in the process of compiling a book of that historic battle. If you are interested in being part of this book HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO-- Write your personal biography in 150 words or less, indicate place of birth, when you joined the military, what branch of the military, rank achieved, awards held, any personal interest story as they relate to the Guadalcanal campaign, family data, and what you're doing today. Send biography with two black and white photos, one of when you joined the military and a current mug shot. (color photos will be excepted; black and white are preferred) Please send any unique or rare photos for inclusion in the photo section of the book. All materials will be returned after publication. The deadline for submitting your story and photos is October 30, 1986. Send all information to;

GUADALCANAL HISTORY BOOK
[REDACTED]
Paducah, KY 42002-3101

As many of you know, or may not know, the section of U.S. Highway 91 that runs between Connecticut and Vermont is known as the AMERICAL DIVISION MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. Every Memorial Day Ed Largess, on behalf of ADVA, places a wreath on the signs that are in the three rest areas on this stretch of road. The picture below shows Ed and PNC Ed Haddad performing the honor this year.



