



FOUNDED 1945

# AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

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

Editor-in-Chief: James C. Buckle  
Vietnam Editor: Gary L. Noller

JULY - AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2000

THE AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION - 82 PHYLLIS DRIVE - SOUTH YARMOUTH, MA 02664



ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

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Beaverton, OR 97005  
[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

**Chapter Commander**  
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[REDACTED]  
Peabody, MA 01960  
[REDACTED]

**Chapter Commander**  
South Midwest Region  
Cameron F. Baird  
[REDACTED]  
Stonewall, TX 78671  
[REDACTED]

**Chapter Commander**  
Great Lakes Region  
John Mathews  
[REDACTED]  
Verona, WI 53593  
[REDACTED]

**Chapter Commander**  
Far West Region  
Don Shebesta  
[REDACTED]  
Woodbridge, CA 95358  
[REDACTED]

**Chapter Commander**  
East Region  
Bill Gold  
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Baltimore, MD 21209  
[REDACTED]

**Chapter Commander**  
Central Midwest Region  
Ronald L. Ward  
[REDACTED]  
St. Louis, MO 63123  
[REDACTED]

**Web Site (Internet)**  
www.americal.org

Commander's Comments

As another year begins in the ADVA I welcome the challenge of being the Commander of this great organization. I am honored to be in this position and to receive the support I have from the members. I always have an open door policy and my phone is listed for calls when needed. If I can not answer your questions I will try through the channels. I have a lot of confidence in the PNC's and other members.

Since I committed to this post five years ago my personal life has gotten in a faster pace. But I feel I am up to the task to be a good leader. As I said in San Antonio, I have some big shoes to fill. I am succeeding the great jobs that the commanders before me have done. I have learned from them and plan to put that knowledge to good use.

We must continue our membership recruitment in order to be a strong organization. As you know, we lost one of our great leaders this year. I visited with Ernie Carlson several times in his last couple of months and each time he was talking about the ADVA and signing new members. He was a real workhorse and he will be missed for a long time. I challenge each member to sign up a new member this year. As a life member of the 196th LIB Assn.. I also would like more of the 196th LIB veterans to join and get involved. It would really make me a happy commander if I sign up the Mary Ann survivors of which I am a part. I really respect all those men who were on the Hill that night of March 28 1971.

I have made my appointments for the offices and will now pick my nominating committee. Anyone interested in helping with the organization can contact me by phone, e-mail, or postal mail. The National Historian post is not filled at this time. We need someone to fill that position. If anyone is interested please contact me.

Let's have a good and safe 2000 and continue to be the best organization the U S Army has ever had. I would like to thank the Old Guard for all they have done. You have set a good example for us younger soldiers to follow. Keep up the good work. And don't forget to hug a Vet.

Ronald R Ellis, National Commander

In Memory

Ernest Beal Carlson, 75, passed away at his home in Fredericksburg, TX on May 16, 2000. Ernie was the Chapter Commander of the South Midwest region and the host of the 2000 ADVA reunion in San Antonio, TX. He became ill shortly after the 1999 ADVA reunion in St. Louis and had undergone treatment for cancer for several months.

Carlson was born in Montana but spent most of his time growing up in Homer, Alaska. He entered the U.S. Army in WW II and served with Co. D, 182nd Infantry, Americal Division. After the war he relocated to Texas and established his home with his wife Fay.

Ernie was an accomplished musician and enjoyed playing the saxophone. He spent many years managing fruit orchards in the Hill Country of Texas. He was instrumental in promoting the Americal Division at the Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, TX. He was especially fond of his association with Vietnam veterans and encouraged them to be proud of their service.

Carlson is survived by his wife and many children, grand children, and great-grandchildren. Memorial services were held at the National Cemetery at Ft. Sam Houston, TX on May 19, 2000

The Americal Division Veterans Assn. reunion, Class in 2000, was dedicated as a living memorial to Mr. Ernest B. Carlson, Chapter Commander, South Midwest Chapter, ADVA. The reunion was Ernie's dream, and once he discovered the cancer growing in his body, one of his primary reasons for living was to attend just one

more reunion and visit with the brothers he loved so much, the Americal Division veterans from all wars. Ernie would not want you to mourn his death but to enjoy the reunion and celebrate life among your friends. So, when the moment arises, say a short prayer and sip a cold beer for Ernie Carlson, the best friend a veteran could have. 'Til we meet again at the final reunion, Ernie!

The Class in 2000 Reunion Committee; Bill Bacon, Chairman



Ernie Carlson with plaque at the Nimitz Museum, Fredericksburg

I have no words that would ever express the sadness I feel at this very moment after hearing of Ernie Carlson's passing. It was only a few months ago that I spoke to him on the phone concerning the upcoming reunion.

I have many fond memories of Ernie and how rapidly we became good friends in a short time. I had and will always have the highest respect for him and his smile and good-natured personality and humor. I extend my most heartfelt condolences to Ernie's family. He will long be remembered by all of us in the ADVA, and especially by me. I am sad to say I will not be able to attend the funeral on Friday as I will be headed for the "Wall" in Washington, D.C. for the Memorial Day services. It will be there that I will give my thanks to God for having met Ernie and for enjoying the light he brought into my life. I will miss him very much.

Dale Albers, 3/18th Artillery, Kennewick, WA

Dear friends,

Words cannot express how much the Americal meant to my husband, Ernie Carlson. I can never begin to tell you how he waited for the mailman to bring all the cards he received, and for all your telephone calls, and for all of you who came to visit.

He tried so hard to make it to the reunion in San Antonio. I am glad I was able to go in his place. It was so good to meet so many of you that I had heard Ernie speak of and who I had talked to on the phone. I count you all as part of my family.

My door is open to any of you if you are ever in Fredericksburg. Thanks a million for all the flowers, cards, and "gifts" that you sent me. God bless all of you—and hug somebody!

Fay Carlson, Fredericksburg, TX



AMERICAL CHRISTMAS PARTY  
Americal Museum - Worcester, MASaturday, December 2, 2000  
10:00 A.M. - 3:00P.M.

This Christmas Party is sponsored by the New England Chapter but all Americal members are welcome. If you are planning on attending you must call:

Al Doig [REDACTED] OR Bernie Chase [REDACTED]

GOOD FRIENDS - GOOD FOOD - GOOD TIME

Don't forget to CALL!

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TAPS	TAPS	TAPS	TAPS	TAPS
97 F.A. XIV CORP		182 INFANTRY	D CO.	
Howard C. Bayler		Ernest B. Carlson		
Louisville, IL		Fredericksburg, TX		
December 7, 1999		May 16, 2000		
182 INFANTRY		132 INFANTRY	1/HQ	
William Cole		Raymond E. Daehler		
Charlestown, MA		San Antonio, TX		
March 12, 2000		Date Unknown		
132 INFANTRY E CO		39 MILITARY POLICE		
Nicholas J. Di Rago		Paul E. Jordan		
Des Plaines, IL		Los Angeles, CA		
December 24, 1999		Date Unknown		
182 INFANTRY		132 INFANTRY	F CO.	
Frank Kilty		Robert Lawson		
Melrose, MA		Marion, IN		
Date Unknown		April 24, 2000		
182 INFANTRY		221 FIELD ARTILLERY-SER		
Joseph A. Pavlina		Frederick J. Peterson		
Thomasville, PA		Lexington, MA		
February 16, 2000		Date Unknown		
121 MEDICAL BATTALION		132 INFANTRY	D CO.	
John F. Philibert		William J. Sipavich		
Philadelphia, PA		De Kalb, IL		
April 25, 2000		Date Unknown		
247 FIELD ARTILLERY C BTY		132 INFANTRY	C CO.	
Dale Skrabacz		Robert H. Wellington		
Portage Des Sioux, MO		Illinois		
January 14, 2000		May 2000		

## NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Brad Ailes	Mr. Robert J. Bartruff
11 LIB B/16 Arty	26 Engrs D Co.
Kalamazoo, MI	Springfield, VA
#Don Ballou	#Gary L. Noller
Mr. Jimmie W. Batcheler	Mr. Paul B. Bertelsen
20 Infantry C/1/20	Associate
Nashville, NC	Sioux Falls, SD
#Gary L. Noller	#John W. Anderson
SSG W.L. Blevins (Ret)	Mr. Charles R. Bowers
1 Cav (Att)	198 LIB C/1/46 Inf
Birmingham, AL	Morgan Hill, CA
#Bill Bacon	#Don Ballou

Mr. Forrest G. Bowers	CW4 Donald H. Bowers (Re
182 Infantry L Co.	198 LIB HHC
Abilene, KS	Salinas, CA
#Earl A. Bearden	#Bill Bacom
Mr. Donald R. Bowling	Mr. Andy E. Brito
11 LIB B/3/1 Inf	174 Avn Bn
Hazzard, KY	Rio Rancho, NM
#Art Cole	#Gary L. Noller
Mr. David L. Broome	Mr. Ralph Brown
198 LIB H/17 Cav	46 Infantry Hq/B/5/46
Gainesville, GA	Rossville GA
#Jerry G. Williams	#R. Castronova
Mr. Gary P. Capshaw	Mr. Roberto M. Carletto
196 LIB C/2/1 Inf	11 LIB HHB/6/11 Arty
Pottsboro, TX	Rio Piedras, PR
#Gary L. Noller	#Self
Mr. Richard D. Chambers	Mr. Robert E. Clark
1 Cav B Troop 1 Squad	11 LIB A/23/ M.P
Medford, OR	Baltimore, MD
#Don Ballou	#Bill Bacon
MS. Charlene Constant	Mr. Rick Cronin
Associate	196-198 C/5/46 Inf
Green Field Park, NY	West Nyack, NY
#Don Ballou	#James Malone
Mr. John H. Dahl	Mr. Paul Delvitto
16 Arty Hq Btry	198 LIB HHC 1/6 Inf
Milwaukee, WI	Mt. Holly SPG, PA
#Terry Babler	#Wade Rodland
Col. Roberto Diaz (Ret)	Mr. Lonnie Dillon
11 LIB Hq/4/21 Inf	196 LIB B/2/1 Inf
Gurabo, PR	Jonesboro, IL
#Ramon Labrador	#Matson Merrill
Mr. Raymond J. Essenmach	Mr. John W. Ewing
198 LIB A/5/46 Inf	20 Infantry D/1/20
Oklahoma City, OK	Nashville, TN
#Ballou-Noller	#Dennis Sperry
Mr. Paul F. Feeley	Mr. Donald R. Fox
11 LIB C/3/1 Inf	11 LIB C/4/3 Inf
San Antonio, TX	Lenoir, NC
#Gary L. Noller	#Tom Skiens
Mr. Donnie J. Frazier	Mr. Edward Fuchs
198 LIB Hq/A/1/6 Inf	46 Inf B/1/46
Brighton, TN	Marthasville, MO
#Don Ballou	#Joe S. Pergeson
Mr. Stanley Gadowski	Mr. Roger A. Harmon
164 Infantry E Co.	11 LIB B/39 Engrs
Oxon Hill, MD	Tulsa, OK
#Jim Buckle	#Gary L. Noller
Mr. Matthew L. Hearon	Mr. Thomas R. Hunter
23 S+T B Co.	11 LIB HHC/4/3 Inf
Rockledge, FL	Hinesville, GA
#Gary L. Noller	#Don Ballou
Mr. Dan Ickler	Mr. Gary M. Jenkins
11 LIB A/1/20 Inf	196 LIB C/3/21 Inf
Piney Flats, TN	Glenwood, GA
#Don Ballou	#Gary L. Noller
Mr. John E. Jerabeck	Mr. Doug P.O Johnson
1 Cav B/1 Squad - 14	198 LIB B/E/5/46 Inf
Angleton, TX	Grays Knob, KY
#Self	#Bill Bacon
Mr. Leornard Johnson	Mr. Jerome R. Kelley
182 Infantry D Co.	1 Cav 1Squad
Glasgow, KY	Nora Springs, IA
#Bill Bacon	#John L. Isani

Mr. Glenn E. Klingaman	Mr. Vic Kormaski
Associate	196 LIB E/4/31 Inf
Lakewood, NJ	Mt. Carmel, PA
#Don Ballou	#Gary L. Noller
Mr. Paul E. Labounty	Mr. Leonard L. Lantz
182 Infantry L Co.	31 Inf B/4/31
South Jordan, UT	Scottsville, VA
#Don Ballou	#Self
Mr. Richard J. Linehan	Mr. Dennis O. Linn
11 LIB B/3/1 Inf	198 LIB B/1/6 Inf
Toledo, OH	Decatur, GA
#Gary L. Noller	#Art Cole
Mr. Dennis R. Longo Sr.	Mr. Lance L. Luke
198 LIB B/9 Sup Bn	23 Americal Com Cen
Gilmanton, NH	Pinole, CA
#Gary L. Noller	#Gary L. Noller
Mr. Mike Marcum	Col. Joseph M. McDonnell
?	?
Middleboro, KY	Sierra Vista, AZ
#Don Ballou	#Bill Bacon
Mr. Kenneth L. McParland	Mr. Dale A. Meisel
196 LIB E/3/21 Inf	23 M. P. Co.
Sioux City,, IA	Wescosville, PA
#Don Ballou	#Gary L. Noller
Mr. James N. Messinger	Mr. David Milstead
14 Avn Bn 174 AHC	11 LIB A/3/1 Inf
Graford, TX	Fairhope, AL
#Glen Davis	#Don Ballou
Mr. James P. Mina	Mr. Robert G. Moles
198 LIB	198 LIB A/1/6 Inf
Havertown, PA	Adrian, MO
#Joseph Donovan	#Don Ballou
Mr. Buss Moore Jr.	Mr. Russell E. Morgan
196 LIB C/1/46 Inf	1 Cav HHT 1 Squad
Moundsville, WV	Sherman Mills, ME
#Don Ballou	#Terry Babler
Mr. Bruce L. Morton	Mr. James J. Nichols
11 LIB B/E/3 Inf	198 LIB C/5
Roseda, CA	Fernandina Beach, FL
#Gary L. Noller	#Gary L. Noller
Mr. Jim Novak	Mr. Jerry O'Meara
11 LIB C/4/3 Inf	65 Infantry HHC
Darien, IL	Schaller, IA
#Self	#Gary L. Noller
Mr. Charles A. Rando	Mr. Heriberto Rivas Jr.
198 LIB HHC	196 LIB D/3/21 Inf
Columbia, SC	San Benito, TX
#John W. Anderson	#Doss Korneagy
Mr. Howard H. Sabo	Mr. Reinhold Schiessl
198 LIB C/1/52 Inf	82 Arty D/1/82
Little Silver, NJ	South River, NJ
#Art Cole	#Gary L. Noller
Mr. Robert K. Scott	Mr. Richard J. Senske
6 Infantry C/1/6	196 LIB B/3/21 Inf
Quincy, IL	Alloway, NJ
#Wade Rodland	#Gary L. Noller
Mr. Edwin J. Shanahan	Ltc. James I. Sikes (Ret
744 Tank Bn B Co.	Div Hq Pro Marshall
Middletown, NJ	Grandin, FL
#Joseph Krisanits	#Bill Bacon
Mr. John W. Smart	Mr. Robert E. Smith Jr.
176 Hel Co.	247 F.A.
Nashua, NH	Jackson, TN
#John Furgess	#Roy Pierce

Mr. Toribio Sonora	Mr. Gary G. Spartos
198 LIB E/1/46 Inf	198 LIB Air Mob B Co.
Dickinson, TX	Gilmanton, NH
#Danny Richards	#Don Ballou
Mr. Larry E. Spencer	Mr. Charles Spivey
196 LIB 198 LIB D/1/46	198 LIB Hq Tr 17 Cav
Sarasota, FL	Morrilton, AR
#Rick Olson	#Gary L. Noller
Mr. Terry Sula	Mr. Ben Tanish
11 LIB E/3/1 Inf	21 Recon
Arlington Heights, IL	New Port Richey, FL
#Don Ballou	#Ralph Persinger
Mr. Jimmy R. Turner	Mr. Leslie R. VanBibber
198 LIB A/1/6 Inf	46 Infantry B/5/46
Whitehouse, TX	Liberty, MO
#Gary L. Noller	#John W. Anderson
Mr. Ronald F. Vandenberg	Mr. James R. White
198 LIB C/1/52 Inf	11 LIB D/1/20 Inf
Federal Way, WA	Ashland, OR
#Don Ballou	#Richard Parry
Mr. Stephen Wilcher	Col. Robert E. Wilson
46 Inf C/1/46	11 LIB 14 Avn Bn 16
Greenbelt, MD	College Station, TX
#Ronald Ellis	#Gary L. Noller
Mr. Jason F. Wright	Mr. Theodore O. Wukasch
20 Inf D/1/20	132 Infantry L/Hq/3
Cypress Inn, TN	Groves, TX
#Self	#Gary L. Noller

## #Sponsor

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## REINSTATED MEMBERS

Mr. Howard Lee Boller	Mr. Kevin D. Kavanaugh
65 Infantry Reg Korean	196 LIB D/1/46 Inf
Belleville, IL	Cudahy, WI
#Don Ballou	#Membership Committee
Mr. Howard R. Marion	Mr. Gasper Perez
182 Infantry M Co.	11 LIB CSC
Goodland, IN	New York, NY
#Bernie Chase	#Bernie Chase
Mr. Philip Rackliffe	Mr. Michael A. Ross
121 Med Bn Co B	196 LIB C/D/3/21 Inf
Blue Hill, ME	Fayetteville, NC
#Hyman Sherman	#Self
Mr. James E. Sheridan	Mr. Paul M. Szalkowski
8 Cav C Troop	26 Eng Co. A
Gulfpport, MS	Nashua, IA
#Don Ballou	#Don Ballou
Mr. Stuart John Tuma Jr	Ms. Linda J. Wilson
635 M I HHC Co.	American Red Cross
Melrose, MA	Hudson, MA
#R. Castronova	#Self

## #Sponsor

\*\*\*\*\*

If you know of a buddy that has passed away or that is ill please notify:

Aid. Bernard Chase

[REDACTED]  
South Yarmouth, MA 02664

\*\*\*\*\*



NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Mr. Andrew Don Ash  
Americal Chem Sect  
Newton, KS  
#Bernie Chase

Mr. Anthony J. Bernotas  
125 QM  
South Windsor, CT  
#Paul Santogeanis

Mr. Ronald L. Cannon  
198 LIB E/5/46 Inf  
Corbett, OR  
#CSM Gerald Schleining

Mr. Tillman J. Cole  
182 Infantry B Co  
Tyler, TX  
#William Maddox

Mr. David L. Corey  
164 Infantry Hq/A/1  
West Branch, MI  
#Joe Feeler

Brig Gen. John H. Grubbs  
26 Eng A & HHC  
New Orleans, LA  
#Gen. Fred Kroesen

Mr. Robert L. Keck  
196 LIB C/3/21 Inf  
Hersey, PA  
#Memb. Committee

C.C. John L. Mathews  
14 Arty HHB/1/14  
Verona, WI  
#Terry Babler

Mr. Carl L. McClaffery  
11 LIB C/1/20 Inf  
Del Rio, TX  
#Self

Mr. Kenneth T. Meaney  
46 Inf D/1/46 Inf  
Watchung, NJ  
#Joe Krisanite

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WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

In June of 1999, at the National Reunion in St. Louis, the Executive Council of the ADVA voted to donate \$2500 of Association money to the World War II Memorial.

We put an article in the Americal Newsletter asking members if they wished to contribute to this fund, to send a check to ADVA Headquarters and we would add it to the Association donation. We realize that many had already made a donation on their own or through the V.F.W. or American Legion. We had hoped to make a final donation of five thousand dollars (\$5000). So far we have sent a total of five thousand one hundred dollars (\$5100) to the fund.

Construction is scheduled to start on Veterans Day November 11, 2000. The Americal has slated its 2002 Reunion for Washington, DC in November of 2002. At that time the World War II Memorial should be completed, and it also will be the twentieth anniversary of the dedication of the Vietnam Memorial.

There will be more news in future Americal Newsletters on this Reunion. Many thanks to all who made a contribution to this worthy cause.

Bernard Chase  
Adjutant

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WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL FUND

James A. Thomas

Company H-182nd Infantry Veterans

Scott C. Campbell

Mrs. Francis W. Mullen  
in memory of  
Francis W. Mullen

Frank McQuaid  
F Company - 182nd Infantry

NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

Veterans Day Services will be held at the National Cemetery Bourne, Mass. on Sunday November 5, 2000 at 1:00 P.M..

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NOW HEAR THIS!

About four years ago we has an article in the Newsletter requesting the names of any Americal Veterans who are buried in the National Cemetery in Bourne. Many persons responded to this request. We now have a list of fifty Americal Veterans that we have been putting a small American Flag on their grave on Memorial Day. If you wish to add an Americal Veteran to this list send the name of the veteran to the National Adjutant.

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LAST ROLL CALL  
164th INFANTRY REGIMENT

Kermit Axvig - Concord, CA - January 26, 2000  
Robert D. Baker - Devils Lake, ND - Feb 4, 2000  
Rowland Bemis - Fargo, ND - January 4, 2000  
Harley Dalbey - Fordville, ND - January 20, 2000  
Mike Demianew - Salinis, CA - October 9, 1999  
Everitt Forde - Minneapolis, MN - November 1999  
William Freeman - Simpsonville, SC - Aug 22, 1999  
James Gilbertson - Minneapolis, MN - Aug 22, 1999  
Elmo N. Hofferma - Missoula, MT - Nov 14, 1999  
Ernest Rodgers - Springfield, MO - Nov 17, 1999  
Donald Van Slyke - St. Paul, MN - Jan 20, 2000  
Jack Crull - Lubbock, TX - March 26, 2000

Korean War Veteran  
Vance Pressler - Bismarck, ND - December 1999

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AMERICAL MONUMENT AND TREE

Reports have been sent to the Adjutant that the Memorial Tree and Americal Monument have that has been placed in Arlington National Cemetery are now in place and the bills for the work have now been paid. This Memorial to the Americal was dedicated on Memorial Day 2000.

Many, many thanks to Colonel John Insani for the time and effort he put into making this all possible.

The Memorial is located on Jessup Drive in the Arlington National Cemetery. A picture of this Memorial is on the cover of this issue of the Americal Newsletter.

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ATTENTION

All Chapters are self-supporting with the exception of a small stipend given them from National Headquarters. It is necessary for each Chapter to charge dues in order to pay for postage, supplies, etc. However, you must be a member in good standing with the ADVA before you are eligible to join a Chapter.

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HAVE YOU CALLED THAT BUDDY YET?

WILLIAM F. MCGOLDRICK-NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

COMMANDER  
Roland T. Castronova  
Peabody, MA 01960

SEC/TREAS  
Bernard Chase  
So. Yarmouth, MA 02664

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER CHRISTMAS PARTY

Americal New England Chapter annual Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 12, 2000, 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M., at the Americal Museum, Worcester, Mass. All Americal members are invited. If you plan to attend notify:

Al Doig  
Westwood, MA 02090  
Tel. [REDACTED]

Bernie Chase  
So. Yarmouth, MA 02664  
Tel. [REDACTED]

This is necessary in order that we will have enough food on hand to feed everyone. Last year we had sixty people attend and we would of had more but that was the day of the big warehouse fire in Worcester, near the Museum. There will be some gifts given out. Jim Flynn will provide us with some great Christmas songs. Everybody will have a good time. See you there.

Veterans Day Services will be held at the National Cemetery Bourne, Mass. on Sunday November 5, 2000 at 1:00 P.M..

About four years ago we has an article in the Newsletter requesting the names of any Americal Veterans who are buried in the National Cemetery in Bourne. Many persons responded to this request. We now have a list of fifty Americal Veterans that we have been putting a small American Flag on their grave on Memorial Day. If you wish to add an Americal Veteran to this list send the name of the veteran to the National Adjutant.

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

COMMANDER  
John Mathews  
Verona, WI 53593

ADJ/FIN OFF  
Terry Babler  
New Glarus, WI 53574

The next Great Lakes Chapter function will be at the 18th Annual Kokomo Indiana Veterans Reunion on September 14-15-16-17, 2000. This is the biggest veteran Reunion in the U.S.A.. Over 40,000 veterans attended last year. The Americal had close to 100 in attendance. Our Chapter will have a hospitality area in the camping area. Ron Davis is setting an on going hospitality area camp site.

Our Chapter will have a informational meeting on Saturday at 10:00 A.M. in the camping area at the hospitality site.

We will set up after the meeting in the big tent next to the National till 2:00 P.M. for signing in, to join, for information or purchase of Americal items. An all Americal picture will be taken near the main flag on the grounds at 3:00 P.M.. Other lodging will be at the Motel 6, Ramada Inn and Fairfield Inn Motels. They are all very close to each other.

The Great Lakes Chapter is pleased to announce that we will be hosting the Americal Division

National Reunion in Washington, DC on November 8-11, 2000. on Veterans Day weekend. This is the celebration of he 20th Anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the near completion of the World War II Memorial. Terry Babler will be the Chairman.

Our next meeting will be held during Winterfest 15th Annual R&R Veteran's Festival in New Glarus, Wisconsin on Saturday morning at 9:00 A.M., January 20, 2001 at Jimm's downtown. The Great Lakes Chapter will participate in activities starting on Friday night. Parade, hospitality parties, vendors, dances, Women's auction, displays, group pictures and so on all weekend. The dates are: Jan 19-20-21, 2001.

Our Chapter dues are \$5.00 a year. There are two Newsletters per year, one is sent out in December and the other in June. We extend a welcome to all Americal veterans to join us. Simply send a check to Terry Babler - Adjutant - Great Lakes Chapter ADVA, W5889 Durst Road, New Glarus, WI 53574. We welcome all Americal veterans to join in our activities.

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

COMMANDER  
Bill Gold  
Baltimore, MD 21209  
Tel: [REDACTED]

VICE COMMANDER  
David Richorn  
Fleming, OH 45729

Joe Tunis - Secretary  
Al Barbieri - Treasurer  
George Yates - Sergeant-At-Arms  
Everitt Williams - Chaplain

Our Chapter member, Jay Flanagan with the help of his wife Mary Ann, has made arrangements for what promises to be an outstandins and very reasonably priced Reunion. The Reunion dates are September 19-20, 2000.

Our location will be the Diamond Beach Resort and Conference Center in Wildwood, NJ which is at the southern end of the Wildwoods. Our package includes three nights (3) at the motel, three (3) breakfasts, two (2) dinners with entertainment, a visit to Cape May with a "Dolphin" cruise and also a trip to an Atlantic City Casino. with a bonus money package.

The total cost of all this including registration is \$160 per person double occupancy. For our single occupancy members there is a \$50 supplemental charge.

We are hoping for a good turnout of both WWII and our Vietnam veteran members. Plus we extend our invitation to members of other Chapters and prospective members.

A Reunion notice is going out to all our members. For any member that does not receive the notice and for all who are interested in joining us please contact our treasurer or:

Al Barbieri  
[REDACTED]  
Woodbury, NJ 08096-1219

Bill Gold  
[REDACTED]  
Baltimore, MD 21209

\*\*\*\*\*

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR CHAPTER DUES?



NORTHWEST CHAPTER  
AK WA OR ID MT WY

COMMANDER  
Dave Hammond  
Beaverton, OR 97005  
Tel. [REDACTED]  
Email [REDACTED]

Remember the first piece of sound advise you got when you entered the Army? "Never volunteer for anything!" The Northwest Chapter wants you to for get it. We need your help. Anyone who can spare some time to help with Chapter recruitment, hold an office, or just mke a local meeting, please give me a call. A chapter meeting this fall is in the Planning stage. Hope to hear from you.

Thanks,  
Dave

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FAR WEST CHAPTER  
AZ,CA,CO,HA,NV,NM,UT

COMMANDER  
Don Shebesta  
Woodbridge, CA 95258

SEC/TREAS  
Paris Tognoli  
Isleton, CA 95641

Vice Commander - Victor Lopez  
Sergeant-at-Arms - Howard Walker  
Chaplain - John Bowley

The Far West Chapter invites all ADVA members and guests to the Millennium 2000 Reunion to be held:

Edgewater Hotel & Casino  
Laughlin, Nevada  
Sunday October 1,2000 - Wednesday October 3, 2000

Rooms and banquet MUST be reserved in advance.

Room reservations may be made by calling the Hotel at 1-800-677-4837 and refer to Group Code 'WADVA' to obtain the \$17.00 (plus tax) room rate. Rooms must be reserved by September 1, 2000.

The last communication with you stated that we would have a buffet dinner. Thanks to the efforts of Gloria O'Boyle we shall have a sit-down dinner with choice of Roast Prime Rib, Chicken Cordon Blue or Baked Salmon Filet. We have revised the Reunion registration form accordingly. Those who have already sent in their forms please contact Pat Tognoli to indicate your choice of dinner. There will be entertainment at the banquet.

FWC members planning to attend should be prepared for the election of officers and election of a site for the 2001 Reunion.

Please get your reservations and reservation in by September 1, 2000.

Dues are now overdue for those FWC members not paid up.

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HAVE YOU JOINED A CHAPTER YET?  
THEY HAVE SOME GREAT REUNIONS!

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

COMMANDER  
Robert (Bob) Kapp  
Tampa, FL 33615

SEC/TREAS  
George P. Dakin  
Deltona, FL 32728

The South-East Chapter had a good turnout at the April annual meeting in Melbourne, FL. If you missed this one you missed a great time. Hope to see everyone again next year.



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SOUTH MID WEST REGIONAL CHAPTER

COMMANDER  
Cameron Baird  
Stonewall, TX 78671 78624

SEC/TREAS  
Malcolm East  
Lumberton, TX 77656

Our Chapter has been cursed and blessed simultaneously. The curse was the loss of our beloved Chapter Commander to cancer on May 16th. Ernie worked hard to bring the National Reunion to San Antonio, and he fought hard to subdue the enemy that had invaded his body. He wanted nothing more than to attend one last Reunion. Although his body didn't make it, his spirit certainly did. The Chapter has funded the installation of a memorial paver on the history walk at the Admiral Nimitz Museum of the Pacific War in his honor.

A blessing was that "Class 2000" was a magnificent event at which beer and tears both flowed generously. A highlight of the activities was a wreath laying ceremony in honor of combat medics at Fort Sam Houston. It was a wonderful tribute to the "docs" who suffered disproportionate casualties, putting their own lives in peril while trying to save others.

The Saturday banquet was particularly memorable with the keynote speech by Nick Bacon (MOH). We were blessed by the presence of several young soldiers currently stationed at Fort Sam, who participated in the poignant "missing man" ceremony in remembrance of our MIA's and KIA's. The star of the show was Angelina Bonetti, who spoke of her four year long quest to find someone who knew her father who was KIA when she was three years old. Thanks to contacts that she made at the Reunion, her quest appears to be near fruition.

Thank you to everyone who attended; it was a genuine joy to reunite with old friends and to make new ones. As Ernie would say, "Hug somebody".

## ELECTED TRUSTEES AMERICAL DIVISION FOUNDATION

Ronald R. Ellis  
[REDACTED]  
Henderson, TX 75652

National Commander ADVA  
Term Expires 07-2002

Malcolm East  
[REDACTED]  
Lumberton, TX 77656

Sr. Vice Commander  
Term Expires 07-2002

Richard Scales  
[REDACTED]  
Oakley, IL 62552

Jr. Vice Commander  
Term Expires 07-2003

Austin J. Roth  
[REDACTED]  
Westlake Village, CA 91362

Trustee  
Term Expires 07-2001

Ronald L. Ward  
[REDACTED]  
St. Louis, MO 63123-6510

Trustee  
Term Expires 07-2004

Joseph B. Chin  
[REDACTED]  
Lincoln, MA 01773-0673

Trustee  
Term Expires 07-2004

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## ADVA SCHOLARSHIP FUND REPORT

At the annual Reunion of the ADVA held June 15-18, 2000 in San Antonio, the trustees of the ADVA Scholarship Fund announced the following winners of this year's competition.

Gregory Herring was the first place winner. He resides in Maynard, MA and was sponsored by his grandfather, Joseph A. Papa, who is a WW II veteran with service in the 182nd Infantry Regiment. Gregory will be attending the University of Rhode Island. \$3000 will be placed in his account at this school.

Mary Regan was the second place winner. She resides in Sauk Village, IL and was sponsored by her father, Todd Regan, who is a Vietnam veteran with service in the 196th Light Infantry Brigade. Mary will be attending Trinity Christian College. \$2000 will be placed in her account at this school.

James Maluk was the third place winner. He resides in Staten Island, NY and was sponsored by his father, Stephen Maluk, who is a Vietnam veteran with service in the 26th Engineer Battalion. James will be attending Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. \$1000 will be placed in his account at this school.

There were 26 applicants this year. Winners were selected by three teachers who are not connected to the ADVA in any manner. Our plan does not involve any cronyism or old buddy network. The application is a fairly simple process. We don't ask for any grade transcripts or SAT scores. The main criteria for the winners is the 200 word essay on the Americal Division, patriotism, loyalty to the nation, etc. The teachers tell me it's a tough call as many of these essays are well written and certainly all applicants could use the financial help. I enjoy working to make the ADVA Fund the success it is but would certainly not want the job of picking the winners. I read all the applications and each one of these students could use our help.

The raffle we send out each year is our main source of revenue. We have some investments in our mutual fund, making a good return, but the raffle remains our bread and butter at present. Our

members came through this year as the have in the past for our raffle. We had some production problems on printing the tickets and they were not mailed as soon as the should have been. I received quite a few returns after the drawing was made at the San Antonio Reunion. Those of you who sent those stubs to me late, I'll be saving them for the drawing in Cleveland next year.

The winner of this years drawing was Dennis Bush from Canton, MI, a veteran of the 1/6th Infantry 198 LIB (Gunfighters) Vietnam. He won the prize of \$250.00. The annual raffle usually returns in the neighborhood of \$12,000 for the Fund. Deduct the cost of printing and mailing the raffle tickets and you have our profit. A word of thanks is called for here to Jim Buckle who handles the task of stuffing all those envelopes and getting them into the mail.

The last finance report that I received from our Finance Officer, Joe Chin, states that as of June 12, 2000 the total assets of the Fund is \$60,917.42.

Should any member of our Association have a child or grandchild that is interested in applying for a scholarship, contact Fund Chairman, Ron Ward. A student must be admitted to a college or tech school before applying. We will fund any year of higher education up to four years.

Graduate school students are not eligible to apply. Should a student be fortunate enough to win one of our scholarship, he or she is still eligible to apply again the following year if still working on an undergraduate degree. To get more particulars on the ADVA fund, contact Ron Ward. My address is in the directory of your Americal Newsletter.

Ronald L. Ward  
Chairman  
ADVA Fund

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## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

South Mid-west Chapter  
in memory of  
Joseph Balcazar

Mrs. Lewis Doyle  
in memory of  
Lew Doyle

Lloyd Morrell  
in memory of  
Robert McGann

Ann Rizzo & Patricia Villante  
in memory of  
Frances W. Mullen

Spencer W. Wolfe  
in memory of  
Cecil Lowery

Catherine Sullivan	Joseph Chin
Terry Maloney	Edward Raymond
Salvatore Vinciullo	Helen Beyers
John 'Doc' Hofer	Dutch DeGroot
Vern Pike	David Jones
Virginia Stoeckel	Jim Wimberley
Bob Feeken	Glenn Heyer
Matt Swaikowski	Bill Dunphy

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MORE TO FOLLOW IN THE NEXT ISSUE

Looking For: Anyone who served with Duane Downing, KIA, 02/23/69. Duane served in **Co. D, 4/3rd Infantry**, 11th LIB wounded on Feb. 23, 1969, near the village of Phoung Dinh. He was evacuated to Chu-Lai where he died. I would like to hear from anyone who served with him. He was a good friend. Contact: Stanley Helms, [REDACTED] St. Johns, MI, 48879

Looking For: The Artillery Battery Commander on **LZ LIZ**, July-Dec, 1969. I was the Battalion Commander of the 1/20th Inf. at this time. Contact: Colonel R. E. Wilson, [REDACTED], College Station, TX 77845-4455, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Radio Recon/Military Intelligence or anyone who was an ASA or MI soldier with the infantry brigades. The **313th MI BN** is celebrating a reunion of past and present members. Contact: CWO Ray Younger, [REDACTED], Ft Bragg, NC, 28307

Looking For: Anyone, **D Btry.**, 6/11th **Arty.**, 10/68- 10/69. Contact: Bob Corsi, [REDACTED] Quinnesec, MI, 49876

Looking For: Anyone, **B Co.**, 3/21st Inf., Feb 69 to Dec 69. Joe Suell, Skip Fenner, Eric Shimer. Contact: Rich SENSE, [REDACTED] Alloway, NJ, 08001

Looking For: Bill Prosser, **Co. B, 1/52nd Inf.**, 198th LIB. Contact: Gary Michael Eltrich, [REDACTED], Denver, CO, 80202

Looking For: Anyone, **E Co. 3/21st Inf.**, 196th LIB, May 68 - Mar. 69. Contact: Kenneth McParland, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Sioux City, Iowa, 51103, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Those who served with Tom Ridge, **11th LIB, 1/20th Inf., B Co.** in 1969/1970. Contact: Scott Westcott, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Erie, PA, 16505, Phone: [REDACTED]

Looking For: Last name Walls, 1968-1969, **17th Cav. 198th LIB**. Contact: David Broome [REDACTED] Gainesville, GA, 30507

Looking For: Stush, Joe Torres, 1970-71, **Co. C, 1/52nd Inf., 198th LIB**. Contact: John C.(Pete)Griffin, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Baxley, GA, 31513, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Anyone from LZ Stinson, **Co. B, 1/52nd Inf., 198th LIB**, 1970-1971. Contact: Jeff Johnson, [REDACTED] Gooding, ID, 83330, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Anyone, **HQ Co., 1st Bn., 132nd Inf.** I am looking for any contacts

with veterans who were with this unit on Bougainville, 1943 and 1944. I believe the unit was formed on Fiji or New Caledonia and departed to Bougainville in December, 1943. My brother was KIA with this unit on October 15, 1944. I was in the South Pacific in 1945, but never got to Bougainville. Contact: Robert Green, [REDACTED] Sacramento, CA, 95829

Looking For: Zubak, Twang, Vamakias, and others. **198th LIB, 9th Support Bn.** Contact: Dennis R Longo, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Gilmananton, NH, 03237, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Paul Goldburg & Freighttrain & DOC, **Btry. A, 3/16th Arty.**, Dec. 67 - Dec. 68. Contact: Nolan Hargrave, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Littleton, CO, 80122-3348, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Anyone, personnel of Div HQ, and 132nd, 182nd, or 164th Regiments. Would like to have your comments regarding your experiences during, before, or after Battle Of Hill 260, Bougainville. I joined the 21st Recon Troop on Fiji in Nov, 1943. Was assigned to DIV HQ G-3 Section after several long range patrols. Liaison duties on Leyte, Cebu, and Bohol 1945. I have Bougainville photos to share. Contact: Ed Booth [REDACTED] Scottsdale, AZ, 85259 [REDACTED]

Looking For: Anyone from **182 Inf., Co. C**, 1942-1945. Anyone who may have served with Harold D. Nichols (Nick). He served as a 1st scout and later became the B.A.R. man. Nick fought at Bougainville, Leyte, Cebu, and participated in the Battle of Hill 260. Would also like to contact Capt. Brown (Brownie) of the 182nd Inf., Co. C. Contact: Ronny Young, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Anyone, **Co. A, 4/3rd Inf., 11th LIB**, 1970-71. Contact: Dennis Cote, [REDACTED] Wamego, KS, 66547

Looking For: My RTO and Medic. In 1968 I commanded 3rd Plt., **Co. C, 3/1st Inf., 11th LIB**. I was badly WIA in June, 1968 along with my RTO. Contact: Deputy D.A. James Patrick Casey, [REDACTED] Santa Rosa, CA, 95403, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Anyone, **196th LIB, Aviation Sect.**, 67-68. Contact: George W. Geiger, [REDACTED] Canton, GA, 30115, [REDACTED]

Looking For: James E. Wilkerson, **F Trp., 8th Cav**, 69-70. Contact: Dan DeLor, [REDACTED] Ozark, AR, 72949, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Anyone, **Co. C, 1/6th Inf., 198th LIB**, 68-69. Contact: David L Gibson, [REDACTED] Bardwell, KY, 42023, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Johnny R. Williams, **1/46th Inf.**, 67-68. Robert Hill, [REDACTED] Houston, TX, 77043, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Larry F. Rauch, **Americal Division**, '68-'70. Contact: Richard Mace, [REDACTED] Bar Harbor, ME, 04609

Looking For: Anyone, **Co. D, 1/52nd Inf., 198th LIB**, 1969. Contact: Thomas A. Pollard, [REDACTED] Ashland, OR, 97520

Looking For: Ronnie Churchill, May '68-May '69, **Co. D, 1/52nd Inf., 198th LIB**. Contact: Tom Mead, [REDACTED] Albany, OR, 97321-0001, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Arthur Fischer, **11th LIB, 1/20th Inf.**, BN Commander, 1970. Contact: Tom Waterbury, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Richmond, KY, 40475-8641

Looking For: Anybody, **Co. A, 1/46th Inf., 198th LIB**, 1968-969. Contact: Donald R. McDole, [REDACTED] Boise, ID, 83705

Looking For: Anyone who served with my father, Charles Benson Skeen. He served with the **182nd. Infantry, Co. E**, at Bougainville, Hill 260, Leyte Gulf, Solomon Islands. Contact: Blondie, [REDACTED] Greenfield Park, NY, 12435

Looking For: Anybody, **LZ East Mortars or Co. C, 3/21st Inf., 196th LIB**, 11/68-10/69. Contact: Patrick Walker, [REDACTED] Perry, MI, 48872, [REDACTED]

## About the web locator

The ADVA web locator can be found on the internet at [www.americal.org/locator](http://www.americal.org/locator). Follow the links from there to submit your request or to view those already posted.

Your locator request will be posted within a few weeks. (The posting is not automatic.)

Selected locator requests are copied from the internet site and edited for reprinting in the Americal Newsletter. These requests must include a postal mailing address or phone number. This allows readers who do not have access to e-mail to respond to the requests. Not all web locators are printed in the newsletter due to lack of space.

Looking For: Looking for Mondo, Vatali, or anyone **C Btry, 3/16 Arty.**, 69-71. Contact: Jackie R. Cummings, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Veterans, **5/46th**. I am writing book on the history of the 5/46th in Vietnam. (I was a Platoon Leader in 1969.) Present focus is on activation at Ft. Hood through May, 1968. I would like to talk to anyone in that time frame, Co. A & Co. B on the Batangan Penninusla (LZ Ann, River Boat South, LZ Paradise, etc), Co. C on LZ Cippewa, and Co. D on LZ Gator. Also Echo Recon and Hellcats (H/17th Cav). I have tons of documents but need your story. Contact: David W. Taylor, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Medina, OH, 44256, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Anyone, **Co. B, 2/1st Inf.**, 196th LIB. FEB - AUG 1969. Contact: David Blanton, [REDACTED] High Rolls, NM, 88325, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Anyone, LZ Dotty, 68-69, **1/82nd Artillery**, especially field wiremen, Chief Martinez and Burch, Lux. Contact: Allen R. Bates, [REDACTED] Olivehurst, CA, 95961

Looking For: Anyone, **E Co., 1/20th Inf.**, 11th LIB, radar section and mortar platoon. Contact: Dave Blair, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Lemoore, Ca, 93245, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Robert Ibon, Danny Hagger, John Moyer, Mike Anthony or anyone, 3rd Plt., **C Trp., 1/1st Cav.**, 5-22-69 to 6-22-71. Contact: Stephen L. Rockwell, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Lakewood, CO, 80215, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Donald Hylek, **Co. D, 1/6th Inf.**, 198th LIB. Contact: Tom Constant, [REDACTED] Allens Mills Road, Gilmananton, NH, 03237

Looking For: Anyone who knew my dad, Rene Dufrense. My dad was involved in the division since its inception back in Massachusetts and went to New Caledonia. He was at **Guadalcanal, Cebu, Leyete**, etc. I was with the Americal in Viet Nam and my dad was so proud of me. We talked a little about war after I came home but not enough. My dad died in March, 1986 and would like to hear from his friends. Contact: Roger Dufresne, [REDACTED] Derry, NH [REDACTED]

Looking For: Anyone, **F Troop, 17th Cav.**, Oct. 70-Jan. 71. Contact: Graymon (Randy) Teal, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Ocean Springs, MS, 39566

Looking For: Dave Hastings, **26th Engrs**, 67 - 68. Contact: Doug Lay, [REDACTED] Columbus, OH, 43215

Looking For: Anyone that may have served with my brother Tom Lovenberg, **523rd Sig. Bn.**, 69-70. Contact: Nancy Lovenberg Barnes, [REDACTED] Raleigh, NC. 27609

Looking For: Harold Finney, Jr., Dec 69 to Jul 70, **1/20th Inf.**, 11th LIB. Contact: Ellwood Anderson, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Jackson, MI, 49202

Looking For: Lt. William White, **C Btry., 3/18th Atry**, Oct 67-Dec 68. Contact: Jim, [REDACTED] Gloucester, MA, 01930-

2102 Looking For: Anyone, **D Co., 1/52nd Inf.**, 198th LIB, 1968, 81 mm platoon. Contact: Dennis O'Connor, [REDACTED] Cincinnati, OH, 45240, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Joseph Pattie (Water Buffalo) from Toms River, New Jersey, 11th Light Infantry Support, later **723rd Maint.**, radio repairmen. Contact: Leopoldo (Paul) Prado, [REDACTED] El Paso, TX, 79904

Looking For: Sam Mazzola, Lt. Mansfield, Ace, Spider, Mac, Ollie Bates; 1st platoon, **Co. A, 4/31st Inf.**, 196th LIB, or anyone who made it through the night of May 18, 1968. Contact: Byron Dare, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Durango, CO, 81301

Looking For: Ben Jackson, medic with **1/14th Arty** at Ft Hood, reassigned to 1/6 Inf, in March, 1968. Contact: Robert Finger, [REDACTED] New London, WI, 54961

Looking For: Anyone, **C Co., 1/52nd Inf.**, 198th LIB, Jan. to Dec. 1968. Contact: Ronald F. Vandenberg, 15815 5th Lane South, Seattle, WA 98148, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Michael Voy, Dave Maur, Ray Bonner; **1/20th Inf.**, 1968/1969, re-supply chopper pad. Contact: Wayne Hupfauer, [REDACTED] Kernersville, NC, 27284

Looking For: Anyone, **E Trp., 1st Cav.**, 11th LIB, 69-70. Contact: Dan Grimes, [REDACTED] Atlanta, MI, 49709, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Anyone, Jan. 70 - Dec. 70, **4/3rd Inf., 11th LIB**. Contact: Tom Hill, [REDACTED] Dearborn, MI, 48124

Looking For: Jack Henley, **1st Bn., 132nd Inf. Regt.**, Philippines and Japan, 1945. Contact: Lee Ingraham, [REDACTED] Sunnyvale, CA, 94086

Looking For: Anyone, **C Co., 1/6th Inf.**, 198th LIB., weapons platoon, Feb. 68-Feb. 69. Contact: John D. Hooper,

[REDACTED], Oklahoma City, OK, 73107

Looking For: Anyone, **D Btry., 1/82nd Arty.**, 10/69-4/70. Contact: Rein Schiessl, [REDACTED] South River, NJ, 08882 [REDACTED]

Looking For: Anyone, Sept. 1968 to Nov. 1969, 196th LIB, 8th Support then Co. C, **723rd Maint. Bn.** Contact: Larry R. Casey [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Maplewood, MN, 55109

Looking For: Anyone who served with my brother Daniel Alphonse Bolduc. He was assigned to the **196th LIB**. Do not know what Battalion or Company. His tour of duty began on June 13, 1969. He was KIA on July 29, 1969 in QUANG NAM, South Vietnam. Contact: David L. Bolduc, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Deltona, FL, 32738

Looking For: Anyone, '66 & '67, **HHC, 39th Engr Bn.** Contact: Gary L. Firman, [REDACTED] Lebanon, OH, 45036

Looking For: Anyone, **HQ Co., 1st Bn, 132nd Infantry**, Bougainville. 1944, who remembers my brother, PFC Stanley Green, KIA October 15, 1944. I would like to pass on some history of the battle engagements and experiences of he and his buddies to the young members of the family so they will not forget the men who participated in WWII. Contact: Robert Green, [REDACTED] Sacramento, CA, 95829-4034

Looking For: Anyone, Upshur from Ft. Hood to **E Co., 1/6th Inf.** Contact: Bruce Yacuk, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] New Brunswick, NJ, 08901

Looking For: JD P Lourde, Frenchy Laurange, Mike Wiegler, John Evans, or anybody; **HHC, 3/16th Arty.**, Nov. 69-70. Contact: Ken Bentley, 3271 Grouse Place, Clifton, CO, 81520

Looking For: Eddie Vandergrift, Co. C, or anyone, **Anti-tank Co., 182nd Inf. Regt.** Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Leyte, Samar, Cebu, and Japan (1943 to 1945). Contact: Richard C. Lovett, [REDACTED] Albany, OR, 97330, [REDACTED]

Looking For: Ken Bloom, Jack Burns, and anyone; **Co. D, 1/6th Inf.**, 198th LIB & **HHC, 1/6th Inf.**, 1/68 to 2/69. Contact: Crawley, [REDACTED] Newport News, VA, 23606

Looking For: Anyone who knew SP4 Baker. Edward G., KIA August 6 1968, **1/20th Inf.** Contact: Jerry Doc Anderson, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Stone Mountain, GA, 30083

[www.americal.org/locator](http://www.americal.org/locator)



I am looking for anyone that knew my Dad, Rene Dufrense. My Dad was involved with the division since its inception back in Massachusetts and went to New Caledonia. He was on Guadalcanal, Cebu, Leyte, etc.

I was with the Americal in Vietnam and my Dad was so proud of me. We talked a little about the war after I came home but not enough. My Dad died in March 1986 and I would like to hear from anyone that served with him in World War II.

Contact:

Roger Dufresne  
[REDACTED]  
Derry, NH 03237  
Telephone: [REDACTED]

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#### HEADQUARTERS - 1<sup>st</sup> BATTALION - 132 INFANTRY

Bougainville 1944—Anyone that remembers my brother, PFC Stanley Green, KIA October 15, 1944. I would like to pass on some history of the engagements and experiences of he and his buddies to the young members of the family so they will not forget the men who participated in World War II.

Contact:

Robert Green  
[REDACTED]  
Sacramento, CA 95829-4034

\*\*\*\*\*

#### ANTI-TANK COMPANY - 182nd INFANTRY

Looking for Eddie Vandergrift, or anyone that served with C Company, 182<sup>nd</sup> Infantry, serving on Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Samar, Leyte, Cebu and Japan. Contact:

Richard C. Lovett  
[REDACTED]  
Albany, OR 97330  
Telephone: [REDACTED]

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#### HDG COMPANY - 1<sup>st</sup> BATTALION - 132<sup>nd</sup> INFANTRY

I am looking for any contacts with veterans who were with this unit on Bougainville, 1943 and 1944. I believe the unit was formed on New Caledonia or Fiji and departed for Bougainville in December 1943. My brother was KIA with this unit on October 15, 1944. I was in the South Pacific but never got to Bougainville. Contact:

Robert Green  
[REDACTED]  
Sacramento, CA 95829  
[REDACTED]

#### 132<sup>nd</sup> INFANTRY - 182<sup>nd</sup> INFANTRY - 164<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION HEADQUARTERS

Would like your comments regarding your experiences during, before and after the Battle of Hill 260, Bougainville. I joined the 21<sup>st</sup> Recon Troop on Fiji in November 1943 and was assigned to Div Hq G-3 Section after several long range patrols. Was on liaison duties on Leyte, Cebu, and Bohol 1945. I have Bougainville pictures to share.

Contact:

Ed Booth  
[REDACTED]  
Scottsdale, AZ 85259  
Telephone: [REDACTED]

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#### COMPANY E - 182<sup>nd</sup> INFANTRY

I am looking for anyone that served with my father, Charles Benson Skeen. He served with Company E, 182<sup>nd</sup> Infantry on Bougainville, Leyte Gulf.

Contact:

Charlene Constant  
[REDACTED]  
Greenfield Park, NY 12428

or

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#### 132<sup>nd</sup> INFANTRY

My father served with the 132<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment and joined the unit after Guadalcanal in the Fiji Islands. He was with the unit until deactivation in December of 1945. According to his small Army Bible, that I have, he was in Yokohama and Hiratsuma on the island of Honshu from September 1945 until November of 1945, during the occupation.

My question is on is DD214 there is no mention of any occupation medal or ribbon for the occupation of Japan? Would this be an error on his DD214 or did the unit not receive this medal?

Also, was the 132<sup>nd</sup> entitled to the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation? This is not on his DD214 either. I noticed this Citation on your web site.

I would appreciate any help in the above areas. Could you point me in the correct direction to get these questions answered?

Contact:

Terry Godbey  
[REDACTED]  
Sharonville, OH 45241  
Telephone: [REDACTED]

Ed Note: Hopefully some member of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Infantry that served in Japan may be able to answer your questions. I am sending you a form to send to the Records Center for your request to have a copy of your father's records and his medals.

#### 101st MEDICAL REGIMENT by Dom Pantaleo

In August of last year several members of the 101st Medical Regiment met at "The Inn at the Point" at the Marina in Quincy, MA. the group get-together was organized by John O'Neil a former member of the Band.



Reading from Left to Right: Mrs. Bill Dunphy, Mrs. Bill Coronella, hiding next to him is Bill Dunphy, John Sullivan, Dom (Duckfeet) Pantaleo, Albert (Hambone) Riley, John Shea, John O'Neil, Doris Avery and Mrs. Albert Riley.

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#### FROM A RETIRED VETERAN

I retired from the Army with 26 years of service and I spent many years recruiting in the Boston area with great success. That's why I stayed on the job so long.

During my service there not too many Retirees out there to knock the service. It was always positive, but as of last ten years or more it is getting more difficult to find Retirees that would recommend the service and yours truly is one of them.

The Government has lost sight of the fact that the veteran is a very essential part of a healthy recruiting potential. When the government forgets it's promises to those that enlisted that causes a lot of fall out that is negative. I don't care how many incentives you promise.

At one time we could enlist High School graduates, then qualifications changed and we could enlist CAT VI's meaning 70 or less in test scores and it kept going down hill. Now to get those more qualified enlistee's they are giving away the family store and it's not going to make it. Even with all the movie stars plugging.

The Politicians and the Big Brass better catch on before you may have to start the Draft again.

To reverse this down fall in recruiting, start to treat the Veterans and especially the retiree's the way they were promised, with Medical, Dental, and Co-Payments for Disability instead of taking the money out of our retirement pay and giving it back as disability pay.

Our generation (WWII-Notch Baby error) got the shaft from the Government and we paid our dues. We should not be asked to sacrifice more. Give us

what what we were promised and you will have many volunteer recruiters out there doing the job. That I am sure of.

There are two bills in Congress, one in the House, HR-303, sponsored by Representative Michael Bilirakas of Florida and one in the Senate sponsored by Senator Reid of Nevada. Both bills address the short comings of the government to treat the retired veterans as all other retirees are treated. We, the Retired disabled Veterans do not get a disability pension. It comes out of our retirement pay and passed on as a Disability Pension. This is not fair to the retirees who served twenty years or more.

Pat Farino

Ed Note: Pat served in Company G, 182 Infantry during World War II.

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#### NEW LAW PROVIDES FUNERAL HONORS FOR VETERANS

To repair a flagrant, long standing discrepancy, a new law mandates funeral honor details for eligible veterans.

As of January 1, 2000, the Department of Defense is required to provide two active service members, one from the deceased's branch at the funerals for flag presentation and the playing of "Taps."

"These services must be requested as they are not provided automatically," said Gail McGinn, from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Personnel Support, Families and Education.

Veterans' service organization assisting with honor details can coordinate with the Department of Defense to augment the ceremony, providing firing parties and other elements.

As Legion Resolution No. 68 from the 1999 National convention notes, with membership falling and funerals rising, DoD is urged to surpass minimum funeral participation specified by law.

"In developing the policy, we realize the number of requests for military funeral honors was going to increase," McGinn said. "The veterans of World War II are passing away—we're anticipating that there will be about 1500 deaths a day."

Requests for military funeral honors are expected to climb at least 45 percent of those eligible - about 250,000 this year alone. Exacerbating the problem is the 33 percent drop since 1989 in the active-duty pool from which to draw honor details, along with a 25 percent drop in the reserves.

"We believe it is important to demonstrate the country's gratitude to those who, in times of war and peace, have faithfully defended our country," McGinn said. "We want the department's Military Funeral Honors Program to do that for our veterans and their families."

(Written by Kathy W. Farris and taken from the Americal Legion Magazine issue of March 2000)

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HAVE YOU CALLED THAT BUDDY YET?  
TOMORROW MAY BE TOO LATE!

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SNIPER'S BULLET SPARKS SOLDIER'S WAR MEMORIES

On March 28, 1945, John Algeo, then a 29-year-old Army infantry captain, stood atop a ridge on the small Pacific island of Cebu, talking to a company commander about the Japanese counter attack expected to come that night.

It was the afternoon of the third grueling day of fighting and marching across the steamy island in the Philippines.

Action on Cebu was one of several Pacific islands invasions-including Guadalcanal, Bougainville, and Leyte-in which his unit fought during world War II.

On that afternoon, as Algeo bent down to pick up his pack, a Japanese sniper set his sights.

The sniper's rifle bullet ripped through Algeo's left buttock and lodged in his pelvis. The force of the .25-caliber bullet knocked him over the ridge line, out of the sniper's line of sight.

"It felt like a kick in the ass," the blunt speaking veteran said. "That was the end of the war for me," said Algeo, now 84, retired and living in Brewster, MA.

The end of the war, yes; but not the end of the memories of those brutal, bloody days of fighting. Or his wound.

Fifty-five years after the sniper bullet lodged in his body, Jack Algeo got a surprise.

Getting the Lead Out

After going through a routine procedure at Cape Cod Hospital on May 17 to rectify a prostate problem, doctors encountered what they thought was a large "stone" near his prostate gland.

Urologist Dr. Evangelos Geraniotis tried standard methods to break the object down, including laser treatment, but nothing happened.

Two days later, Geraniotis' partner, Dr. Robert Hartnett, did another procedure and successfully removed the object.

But to his surprise what he extracted was not like anything else he had ever seen.

"Have you ever been shot?" he asked Algeo. "Yeah, 55 years ago," came back the response.

"It hurt more coming out than it did going in," said Algeo, now recuperating at home.

His wife, Catherine and two daughters, Donna Kelley of Eastham, MA and Susan Montgomery of Brewster, MA, came into the hospital room after the bullet was removed. "Now that you're all here, I can tell you the good news," he told his family. "They got the bullet out." "They got the bullet?" his wife and daughters asked in amazement.

Susan Montgomery went out of the room, signaled to a nurse, and asked "Is he on drugs, hallucinating, or did this really happen?" It really did.

Besides his daughters, Algeo has two sons Jack, in New Hampshire and Joseph, in Spokane, WA. When Joseph learned of his dad's new possession, he could only say, "Well, he finally got the lead out of his pants."

Geraniotis said he is unaware of a similar medical incident. He said Algeo was very lucky, because if the bullet had penetrated just a little farther, it could have ruptured main blood vessels in the pelvic area, and he would have died.

For 55 years, Algeo thought the slug was where Army and later civilian, doctors saw it on X-rays lodged in his pelvis. Given the level of medical technology at the time, it would have been extremely risky to remove it, so they left it.

Geraniotis said it's not clear exactly where the bullet was initially. He said it could have been in the bone, and then dislodged. Or it may have come to rest right next to the prostate gland. When doctors removed the slug, it was in the prostate. "It is not clear whether it was in all the time," Geraniotis said.

The vintage bullet is just more than an inch long and the diameter of a pencil. It has kept the shape of a rifle slug, although it is etched on one side, perhaps from being zapped by the laser treatment and bent at the end.

War Memories Re-visited

The bullet's re-appearance has brought back many memories for Algeo, who moved to Orleans, MA in 1968, and became the South Orleans postmaster until his retirement in 1978.

The landing on Cebu was the first in which his outfit, the 182nd Infantry Regiment--part of the Americal Division from Charlestown, MA--was in the first wave of the invasion forces.

Fortunately, they met only minor early resistance on the beach. Algeo had drawn up the invasion plans for his unit, and picked a church steeple as the first objective, since it was visible to everyone.

After he was wounded, his litter-bearers were bringing him back to the same church, which had been converted into an Army field hospital. But Algeo and the men carrying him came under fire from a sniper. His litter-bearers put him down, and moved into the jungle to hunt down the Japanese.

During the war Japanese snipers often climbed trees to hide, and tied themselves in to prevent them from falling out. He remembered hearing the distinctive sound of the Army's M1 carbines firing at the sniper. "The men came back all happy. They had left him hanging by a rope in the tree. That fellow didn't live long after shooting me," Algeo said. During an interview on the screened back porch of his home, Algeo smoked a few Marlboros as he retold his story. His daughters and grandson, Todd, listened raptly. It was the first time Algeo had told all the details to anyone in his family.

He told of climbing down the cargo netting over the side of the troop ship, into the small landing craft that would bring them to the beach. "What was I thinking?" I felt confident we could do what we were sent to do. Was I scared? Yes."

He remembered lying behind a log just after the landing, taking cover to get his bearings. All of a sudden a rifle fell out of the air and landed right next to him. He learned later that the rifle belonged to one of the company medics, who had stepped on a land mine.

A few times the big man paused, his blue eyes

filling as he remembered some of the bad times. Then he would blink, clear his throat and continue his story.

Coming Home

The first thing Algeo did when he reached San Francisco was to call his wife. He forgot about the time difference and woke her at 3 a.m. East Coast time. She didn't mind one bit. The couple celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary on June 7. When he arrived back in West Newton, MA, he got his first look at a bright-eyed little 3-year-old, his daughter Donna. Not shy but not quite sure about this strange man. Donna politely informed him he could sleep on the couch that night. He was home at last

Gone were the times spent crouched in landing craft, hearing bullets whine overhead, heading for beaches where the enemy waited, prepared to kill him. Gone were the grueling days of fighting and the anxious nights of waiting and watching for enemy attacks. But the memories will never go away.

"Yes, we lost some good men." he said, a distant look in his eyes. And we're losing more of them every day."

This past Memorial Day Algeo stayed at home--doctor's orders. In the past he has attended services in West Concord, Ma and has marched in the Orleans Memorial Day parade.

But there is always next year.

(Written by John Leaning (Staff Writer) Cape Cod Times Newspaper)



Seated LtoR: Fred Zaino, John Groppi, James Buckle  
Standing: Joe Mullen, Bill Murphy, Jack Algeo, Ed Chisholm and Mike Lombardo.

Ed Note: Above is a picture taken several years ago at the Horizans on Cape Cod Canal. The men of Maj. Algeo's Company came to the Cape several time to have lunch and a get-together with their former officer.

Maj. Algeo, then a Lieutenant, was in H Company, 182nd Infantry when the National Guard was Federalized in January of 1941.

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ARE YOUR DUES PAID?  
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REUNION - REUNION - REUNION

746th AAA GUN BATTALION  
Knoxville, Tennessee  
Ramada Inn  
September 21-24, 2000

2 Dinner Shows  
Business Meeting  
Memorial Service

For more info contact:  
George Stewart  
Tonganoxie, KS 66086-0495

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EASTERN REGEIONAL CHAPTER

September 19 - 22, 2000  
Diamond Beach Resort  
Wildwood Crest, NJ

Dinners - Cruise - Casino - Entertainment

Contact:  
Al Barbieri Bill Gold  
Woodbury, NJ 08096-1219 Baltimore, MD 21209

ALL AMERICAL MEMBERS WELCOME

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164th INFANTRY ASSOCIATION  
September 22, 23, 24, 2000  
Holiday Inn  
Fargo, North Dakota

Contact:  
Wally Johnson  
Fargo, ND 58102

Telephone: [REDACTED]

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L COMPANY - 182nd INFANTRY REGIMENT

September 16, 2000  
Robert Doucette  
Lynn, MA 01904

Telephone: [REDACTED]

All Americal members welcome!!

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NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

If your organization, no matter how large or small, is running a reunion or a get-together we would like to run any information available about it. But, please remember the deadlines for having a timely notice appear in the Americal Newsletter.

Send notice to:  
Editor James C. Buckle  
East Harwich, MA 02645-1470



LOVES'S LABOR'S FOUND  
Couple Falls In Love Again After 47 Years Apart

When Joe Anderson said goodbye to his girlfriend Gertrude just before Christmas in 1940, he never dreamed it would take 47 years for them to speak again.

And the 80 year-old could never have guessed the two would become engaged just one week after rekindling their lost romance. That was almost 12 years ago.

Joe and his 81-year-old wife, who now goes by Trude, met in 1938 while both worked for Poor's Publishing in Wellesley.

Joe, who graduated from Needham High School, the year before, was a proofreader. Trude, who graduated from Wellesley High School two years earlier, was a clerical worker.

The Marlborough couple agree each had goo-goo eyes for the other, but getting one to admit he or she was the pursuer is nearly impossible.

"He'd come over with the galleys and look over where I was, and I was looking over my typewriter at him," said Trude with a smile as she glanced lovingly at her husband.

Joe just chuckled. He claims he only liked Trude because she was "an older woman."

Their relationship progressed, but one year later the two realized future plans were out of the question.

In 1941, when Poor's became Standard and Poor's, Trude was transferred to New York. And Joe, who had enlisted with the National Guard a year before, was placed on active duty.

"We talked about marriage and we decided to wait 'cause we were young. We said let's let the chips fall where they may." Trude said "We decided we would correspond."

"In the meantime, I'm in New York having a ball," quipped Trude with a wide smile.

One year later, their lives changed dramatically.

Joe was shipped to New Caledonia without notice, where he served for the next 3 1/2 years. He lived in a tent in the jungle, fighting off the enemy and recuperating from malaria twice.

Trude met her future husband, Navyman Thomas Williams that year and the two were married within months.

Joe found out the hard way--from a newspaper clipping.

"I'll never forget that day. In August of 1942 I got a letter," he said. The letter included a clipping from a Wellesley paper announcing Trude had married Thomas Williams. Although hurt, Joe said he understood.

"Being realistic, I knew we had started at a bad time," he said. "So I wrote to her and wished her all kinds of luck, I didn't know when I was coming back, if I was coming back, or how I was coming back."

The years passed and Trude and Joe went their separate ways. But both admit they were always in each other's mind.

"I always thought about him," Trude said. "He was my first date. My first love."

"Anytime I heard the name Gertrude, I thought, 'I know a Gertrude,'" Joe said.

Trude moved to Washington, D.C., before settling in San Francisco in 1944, where she would remain for more than 40 years. She and her husband had a son, Robert Williams.

Joe stayed in Massachusetts and worked as a machinist for the company his father began during the depression, Anderson Machine in Needham. He married a woman who died of cancer in 1965.

Living in Millis and at the tail end of a divorce from his second wife in 1987, Joe received the second letter that would dramatically change his life.

Joe's brother (Duncan) called Joe and said. "If you are going to be in Needham, stop in the office." Despite Joe's requests, Duncan would not say what was so important.

Duncan showed his brother a letter from Trude Williams. At first, Joe didn't understand the relevance, until he read the line "Duncan, if the name Trude doesn't mean anything, how about Gertrude Locke?"



"I was more shocked than ever before, Joe said. 'I called her right away. She was crying over the phone. I told her the day after the divorce was final I'd be on a plane to San Francisco.'"

Trude shakes her head when remembering the letter. To this day she does not know what possessed her to write it--or to search out Joe.

"It was strange how I went to the library that day and researched them." Trude said, referring to the phone books she hunted through for the addresses of Joe and family.

"I can see myself going up the steps to the San Francisco Public Library like it was yesterday."

Trude went home and typed up the letter--not knowing what to expect. She had no idea if Joe was even alive.

He was and the two began corresponding almost daily and talking on the phone once a week.

Soon the pair agreed Joe would fly into San Francisco and the two would meet--for the first time in 47 years.

"The only thing that caught me was he was no longer a redhead with curly hair. I remember him as a redhead with lots of long wavy hair." Trude said.

When Joe looked at Trude he later told her, he like what he saw. Joe stayed a week, and when he left Trude already had an engagement ring.

The decision to marry took both by surprise--even though the pair admit each knew the possibility was there when they got back in touch.

"It was just like we had been dating. It was natural, said Trude with a smile as her eyes crinkled in the corners.

"It was just like I had been on a trip for a week on business and I had just come back," said Joe, casting a look over at his wife, sitting in a chair across from him.

The next time Joe went to visit Trude that summer, he took her back with him and they moved into his summer home on Lake Winnepesaukee, in Wolfeboro, N.H. In the fall, they moved back to Marlborough.

On Oct. 28, 1988, the two were married by a justice of the peace in Holliston. Have they changed at all since their days of carefree youth? No, they say. They are the same people.

"I'm still the nice, lovable guy I was 50 years ago." said Joe with a grin.

Since their marriage, Joe and Trude say they spend their days doing their own things. She does her morning aerobics and takes daily walks and he plays chauffeur for many of their aging neighbors.

But come nightfall, Joe and Trude spend time only with each other.

Yet ask them what it is they like about each other so much and they can't even tell you.

Trude and Joe just look at each other and smile warmly.

"It's just something. You can't tie it down," Joe said.

I know I can't" quipped Trude.

(Taken from the Metrowest Daily News--By Jennifer Rosinski--Staff Writer)

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247th FIELD ARTILLERY

On my first day on Guadalcanal we were told to set up our pup tents near Henderson Field. I picked out a good spot and my friend 'Smitty' agreed so we pitched our pup tent.

The next morning we were awakened by someone yelling from the top of the hill, "You crazy soldiers, what in Hell are you doing down there? Can't you see this area is roped off? There is a 500lb bomb buried in there and any disturbance could set it off". We sure got the hell out of there fast!

We were then told to set up a pyramidal tent. Mufich, Soetlick, Smitty, Nick Cerillo and myself.

Cant' remember the other guy's name but he went crazy shortly afterwards.

When this task was finished I went looking for some mosquito nets. I was worried about getting malaria. I hadn't gone very far from the tent and I came face to face with a crocodile. This thing was about three feet away from me. I froze and it froze. I hadn't brought my rifle along so I was looking around for a rock and when I turned back the crocodile was gone. I can tell you now that my heart was in my mouth.

I then continued looking for a mosquito net and upon finding several I wrapped wrapped around the tent.

That night we had an air raid and we all made a bee line for the air raid shelter. I'm in the shelter and I hear Nick Cerillo calling out, "Masucci, Musucci, get me out of here". It was so dark that he couldn't find his way out of the mosquito netting that was wrapped around the tent. I had to leave the bomb shelter and lead Nick out of the tent--while the bombs were falling.

We later learned that the Jap planes came over almost every night. He was called "Washing Machine Charlie". These planes come over one at a time flying at 30,000 feet so that the anti-aircraft guns were not very effective. He would fly around and every fifteen or twenty minutes drop a bomb. He would leave and another plane would take his place. This went on night after night--enough to drive a man crazy. You also had to worry about the shrapnel that was coming down from the anti-aircraft shells.

One night I decided not to head for the bomb shelter during an air raid, and stayed in my cot, held onto the sides and yelled. "Go ahead and drop your bombs, I'm not moving from here. You're not driving me nuts"!

One night while coming out of the bomb shelter I tripped on something. It was pitch dark. I said to Smitty, "What the hell is this"? Smitty replied, "That bomb was close"! I dove for the bomb shelter and hit a tree. So much for a night on Guadalcanal.

Jack Masucci  
247 F.A.

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GUADALCANAL - 2000

This South Pacific nation has been wracked by its worst unrest in 22 years of independence as rival militias from Malaita and Guadalcanl Islands struggle for dominance. The Malaita group call themselves the Malaita Eagles. the Guadalcanal group is called Isitabu Freedom Movement. the Guadalcanal islanders are deeply resentful of the migration to their island by the Malaitans looking for work. The have taken many jobs in Honiara, the capital and have taken over much land as squatters, etc. The Solomons do not have an army, only a police force which has been ineffective. Many people have been evacuated. The Commonwealth foreign ministers delegation as been striving to get the warring factions to negotiate.

(This is an update on the situation on Guadalcanal taken from a newsletter put out by the Marist Missions. Thanks to Al Doig for sending it in.)

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## 221st FIELD ARTILLERY - C BATTERY

As has been the custom the last few years, members of C Battery, 221st Field Artillery Battalion met at the Chicken Coop restaurant for an afternoon of renewing old friendships and enjoying a good meal. Jack Smith, who had recently returned from Australia showed pictures of modern day Melbourne, Bendigo, and Ballarat.

In all ten members were there plus their wives.



Left to Right: Harold Wilkinson, Bob Thornton, Jack Smith. Second row L to R: Len Oliver, Jack Laffey, Jed Manning, Joe D'Ambrosio, Gordon Fletcher. Bernie Chase is in the middle of the third row. Joe and Ruth Nolan were also there but left before the picture was taken.

Every body had a good time and promised to do it again next year.

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#### THE 90 MILLIMETER SNIPER (Copied from the "Coast Artillery Journal")

Not long ago a story by a war correspondent of the New York Times, bearing a Luzon dateline, told of the great work being done by a 90 MM AA guns in helping to dig Japs out of caves at Balete Pass or, equally efficient, in merely sealing them in and letting them smother. This he said may be the answer to the "Japanese war from holes".

And this, we might add, has been going on for quite some time, for over a year in fact. In the September-October (1944) issue of the 'Coast Artillery Journal', an article by S/Sgt. Jack Bowman gave an account of what we believe to be a first use of 90 MM guns in this specialized role. Since the bloody battle on Bougainville, the 90 MM guns have been used in the same way on Saipan and Cebu as well as Luzon. It has seemed to us it was about time somebody wrote up the whole story, so here it is.

As you know, we pulled a fast one on the Japs in the first place by establishing a beachhead at Empress Augusta Bay. It was the most awkward spot they could possibly have had us, and though they gave the Marines a pretty stiff fight initially, it was four months before they could mount a full scale offensive. By that time the 37th Infantry Division and the Americal Division had largely replaced the Marines. We had a nice tight perimeter around all the ground we cared to use, and our planes based on the three air fields

constructed within the perimeter were raising plenty of heck for the Jap air force. If the Japs wanted to pry us loose they were going to have to pay for it, and they did when they tried.

Our Infantry paid, too. The flat areas we occupied was ringed to the northeast by high ridges and on those heights the enemy assembled much of his lighter artillery. He could look right down our throats, and shell our airfields and perimeter positions with ease. It would have been nice to have held those ridges ourselves, but that would have meant extending the perimeter too much to be practical. So, on March 8, as the second Battle of Bougainville started, we began catching it hot and heavy from the Jap guns.

The howitzers of our Division artillery swept the face of those ridges with fire, but the Japs were dug deep into the hillside in L shaped caves, for instance, showing only firing ports on the front of the ridge, and when their guns drew answering fire the Japs would simply pull their guns back into the caves and wait until the firing let up. Howitzers proving ineffective, 75 MM AT guns mounted on half tracks were moved up into the front lines and blazed away with direct fire. This didn't work so well on the caves either.

Then, the S-3 of the 746 AAA Gun Battalion, which was set up down in the flat in a dual FA and AA role, had an idea. Taking one 90 MM gun out of each battery would not impair the efficiency of the battalion in the long range FA role to any extent. AA action was negligible. The Japs had promised their ground troops the support of 300 bombers but only one ever showed up. The high velocity and flat trajectory of the 90's might be just what the doctor ordered for those Jap caves.

In all, six 90 MM guns (a couple of them from the Marine AAA batteries that were still on the island) were placed on hills and rises of ground which coincided roughly with the secondary line of defense, about 2,000 to 3,000 yards from the Jap positions. Some AAA service troops, incidentally, were in the secondary line as provisional Infantry. The 90 MM gun positions were organized more or less as strong points amongst the Infantry pill boxes and foxhole system.

It may sound as if it was simple to get the guns into position. It wasn't. The Engineers had to cut out winding roads up the reverse slopes of the ridges, away from Jap fire, and then it was a matter of hauling the guns up by main force, with a tractor pulling and a bulldozer pushing on the rear of the pedestal. Positions were dug in and revetted with earth. Camouflage presented no problem.

There was jungle growth all over the Jap infested ridges which made pin point location of targets difficult, and that is necessary for accurate 'sniping' with a 90. A sharp lookout had to be maintained for gun flashes, muzzle blasts, or other activity among the monkey men. Occasionally Division Artillery Headquarters would request 'timed fuze area fire', on certain locations. The Infantry would point out pillboxes or machine gun nest for the 90's to shoot up. Indeed, Infantry moral went up sharply as a result of the swift, hard hitting, direct artillery they were receiving. It is very satisfying to spot an enemy weapon that has been keeping you pinned down, report it, and see it blasted out of existence five minutes later. From the first, the mission was a success. A couple of episodes will illustrate.

After a few days of proving an on going nuisance to the Japs, a 90 commanded by Lt. E.C. Camp began to receive counter battery fire from a well concealed Jap field piece. An Infantry O.P finally located it for him, and Camp and his boys blasted back with thirty odd rounds, using P.D. ammunition. When the smoke from the last round cleared away it looked as if the position, a cave, had been pretty well destroyed. But Camp decided to put four more rounds into it 'for luck'. One of the rounds when smack into the firing port and suddenly the whole cave erupted spewing out the Jap gun, debris, and pieces of "Sons of Heaven". Camp had hit an ammunition pile inside.

Another gun, commanded by a 1st Lieutenant of Dog Battery, 746th AAA performed as neat a bit of precision shooting as has ever come to our attention. A Jap pillbox had been built just outside the perimeter to ambush our night patrols, and the Infantry wanted very badly to get rid of it. Due to jungle growth it was difficult to see the results of fire from the 90's position, so an Infantry observer got Dog's gun set in for them. The gun was on azimuth soon enough, but the elevation seemed to be giving trouble. The pillbox was strongly built and the Infantryman wanted a round placed into the machine gun firing port. Finally the Infantryman was bracketing the firing port in inches and Dog Battery was laying their 90 for elevation with a gunner's quadrant in tenth's of a mil. Between Dog Battery and the Infantry they landed a round into the firing port and in plain words "blowed" the damn pillbox to Hell. This was 90 MM 'sniping' with vengeance!

Although Dog Battery did some fine shooting the did have a few bad breaks. One night, when all seemed quiet, one of the Jap guns. "Old Pistol Pete" we called it, rolled out and fired a few rounds directly into Dog Battery position, killing the Lieutenant and two of his men while wounding several others. This was the first casualties of the war for us.

Now that Dog Battery had been knocked out, Charlie Battery commanded by Captain King took over. Capt. King took a height finder and a B.C. scope up the hill and oriented it with the gun that had killed the men in Dog Battery. After knocking out a dozen or so guns "Old Pistol Pete" was finally located. We were fortunate in having a Jap prisoner help us do it. He had to have a box to stand on to be able to see through the "Height Finder". He seemed to get a kick out of it when we opened up on the big gun and bodies, ammunition, and pieces of the gun started flying through the air. That Nip sure was loyal to his "God Emperor".

After three weeks of heavy pounding from our guns the Japs couldn't take it any longer and retreated over the mountains where we kept them for the duration of the war.

Leonard Owczarzak  
746 AAA - Gun Battery

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#### FIJI VACATION - ARMY STYLE

We hadn't been on Fiji too long when a beer ration came in. Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 182nd Infantry had a good supply that was doled out that night. As the evening progressed our consumption was making us rather loud, causing Captain Kay to appear, telling us to "knock it off and hit the cots". This didn't agree with some of the men and five of us considered leaving the area and head for Suva.

One of us obtained a permit to show the motor pool guard that we needed transportation to pick up guys down the road. Choosing a weapons carrier (4x4?), we loaded on a half a case of beer, one blanket, and I believe a loaf of bread, and off we went, laughing all the way. However, we were more tanked than the truck as it ran out of gas before long. Depositing it off the road, we thumbed down a flat bed with and Indian driver. Arriving in Suva one of us knew of a Mrs. Abernethy rooming house. After paying off our driver, with the brew etc. we hung around town for a day or so.

Back on the road we thumbed a ride with some G.I. heading back. In no hurry we had our chauffeur head down a road off of the main route. How lucky! We found a little village with a convenient Inn and rooms, with a river view, out the front. This was our headquarters for a couple of days. Had a nice breakfast each morning and the bar opened afternoons. Various officers came by from time to time, for a snort or two. None of them ever questioned why five rather shabby G.I.'s were hanging around. If we had money for all we did, I can't recall.

Guilt set in on us so we bid adieu to this happiness, and got out to the main road to head back to the 182nd. Transportation came soon with two M.P.'s that thought we looked suspicious and invited us to join them, in a vehicle that looked like the one we had abandoned. Naturally they took us straight to Headquarters Company and Captain Kay who was furious. It didn't help our welcome when one of our group laughed at that encounter. Captain Kay, rather loudly, told the M.P.'s to dump us at the stockade.

We had a squad tent close to a fenced in security area that held six or eight 'Bad Boys'. No cots, just one blanket, and mess kit.

In due time we faced a five man court-martial board of officers of various rank that gave us all six months sentence. We policed the entire area daily, working the latrines, and picking up decayed mangoes around officer country. Father Brock would console us now and then. (I'm sure some of you pulled guard on us).

Returning from chow one morning an uproar was in progress as the "Bad Boys" were attempting to scale their wall. Lt. Willard, our warden, had tear gas brought up and lobbed into the compound. This after, I'm sure, some live rounds had been fired over their heads. We kept away, but did have some gas effects float over our heads. Things quieted down shortly and we resumed our details.

Some days later we had orders to get with a convoy heading who knew where? On board ship our party of five was escorted to the "brig". Some days later a ranking officer (I always thought he was a Colonel) set us free to join our Company.

We served 63 days of our sentence and were back to Headquarters Company in time to land on Bougainville.

This whole bit isn't anything to be proud of, but unusual anyhow. I redeemed myself by later earning a Bronze Star with a V for an incident on Cebu. This award was mailed to me many years later down here in North Carolina where it all started with maneuvers in 1941.

Ed Loeb  
21ST Recon

(Taken from the South Pacific Buddies Association Newsletter)



E COMPANY &amp; MED. DET. 182nd INFANTRY REGIMENT

GRAND MARSHALS FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

WAKEFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Wakefield has had a military unit since 1644. This was one year before the Great and General Court of Massachusetts, which in 1645, "decreed that a military guard should be kept in every town to provide against invasions from Indians".

Since that day, from the Battle of Concord and Lexington until the occupation of Japan, a Wakefield military unit has fought in every war that has involved the United States.

In January of 1941 the Wakefield military unit was again called to serve. This time it also included the Medical Detachment of the 182nd Infantry and these units were now part of the 26th Yankee Division. Camp Edwards, Bourne, Massachusetts was to be the home base for the coming year.

This year of duty included maneuvers in central Massachusetts while attached to Fort Devens and then ten weeks of Army maneuvers while attached to Fort Bragg, North Carolina

Arriving back at Camp Edwards on December 6, 1941 the men of the Wakefield units expected to be discharged on January 16, 1942, after completing a years service. The bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7th, changed all that.

January 23, 1942 found the 182nd Infantry Regiment separated from the Yankee Division, on board transports and heading overseas--destination unknown!

March of 1942 found E Company and the Medical Detachment on the island of New Caledonia and soon to be part of the Americal Division.

The Americal was the first Army Division to go into offensive action against the Axis power in World War II when the 164th North Dakota Infantry Regiment landed on Guadalcanal to be followed by the 182nd Infantry.

The next action the Americal participated in was the island of Bougainville, in the Northern Solomons. On this island E Company was awarded a Distinguished Unit Citation for action on Hill 260--the only one awarded to a unit of the Americal Division during World War II. E Company paid a high price in casualties for this award.

From here it was on to the Philippines and more islands--Leyte and Cebu--and finally occupation duty in Japan. On December 1, 1945, E Company and the Medical Detachment, as part of the 182nd Infantry were deactivated. So ended the saga of Wakefield units in World War II.

In February of 2000 the Wakefield Independence Day Committee met to work on the planning for the Independence Day activities. The committee was:

Tom Doran - Chairman  
Steve Daley - Co-Chairman  
Jake MacKay  
Joseph Conway

Joseph Conway is a police officer in Wakefield and was in charge of traffic for the holiday festivities. During the discussion of choosing a Grand Marshal Mr. Conway suggested that E Company and the Medical Detachment be so honored for their duty and service to their country. After a short

discussion it was decided that the men of these Wakefield military units were indeed deserving of the honor of being the Grand Marshals of the Independence Parade.

In taking into consideration the ages of these veterans it was arranged for these honored men to ride in a trolley at the head of the parade.

Ruth Ann Conway, a registered nurse, made it possible for several of these veterans to ride in the trolley. Her caring and sincere attention was greatly appreciated by all concerned.

The parade was a huge success and enjoyed by these surviving veterans. Many cheers and applause was given as the trolley proceeded along the parade route and it was with great pride that these veterans sat in the reviewing stand and accepted the acknowledgments of the passing parade.

It was a day they will always remember!

Speaking for all of the veterans of E Company and the Medical Detachment, I wish to thank the Wakefield Independence Day Committee, The citizens of Wakefield, and the Wakefield Daily Item for this memorable honor.

In closing I do want to mention that the father of Joseph and Ruth Ann Conway, S/Sgt. Joseph M. Conway, served with E Company during the Guadalcanal and Bougainville campaigns. He was awarded a Silver Star for "Gallantry in Action" during the battle for Guadalcanal.

I am sure he was watching over this parade with pride in his children and in the E Company that he had served so well.

James C. Buckle  
Historian  
E Company & Med. Det.

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#### FLAG AMENDMENT LOSES BY FOUR VOTES The Americal Legion - Citizens Flag Alliance

I just walked away from the United State Senate chamber where we lost our efforts to protect the American Flag from desecration by FOUR VOTES. I'm mad not because we lost the vote. I'm upset by politicians who disrespected the veterans who were in Washington on behalf of the flag amendment.

The above statement was written by Robert Spanogle, National Adjutant, The American Legion, after the recent vote by the United States senate on the flag amendment.

The two Senators from Massachusetts, Kennedy and Kerry, both voted against the amendment--the two Senators from North Dakota, Conrad and Dorgan, both voted against the amendment--the two Senators from Illinois split their vote, Senator Fitzgerald voted for and Senator Durbin voted against.

Just think, if the Senators from the 182nd Infantry State and the Senators from the 164th Infantry State had voted "YES" the amendment would have passed.

Keep this in mind when certain people come up for re-election.

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ARE YOUR DUES PAID?  
SEND THAT CHECK IN NOW!

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A TRIBUTE TO ERNIE CARLSON

The death of Ernie Carlson was a huge loss to the Americal and his many friends. For me, the loss was especially profound, as it was he who rekindled my pride in having served under the Southern Cross.

I returned from Viet Nam to a deeply divided country, wracked by protests and demonstrations against the war. Soldiers characterized as dupes or psychotic time bombs ready to explode at the slightest provocation. Traditional veteran's organization weren't eager to accept us into their ranks. for thirty years, I kept mostly silent about my service.

Then I met Ernie. He didn't care that I wasn't a hero, and he didn't care that my generation had lost a war. His acceptance of me as an individual and a fellow veteran was immediate and unconditional. I served in the Americal, therefore I was his bother. The generation gap did not exist for him.

He had a precious gift for bringing people together and an enormous capacity for love which encompassed all of his brothers and their families. Through this brotherhood I have gained many new friends and rediscovered old ones. These priceless benefits are the direct result of Ernie's care for people.

It's fair to say that Ernie gave his best years to the Americal, first as a young man in combat and in later years to service to this organization. We all owe him a debt of gratitude. He was the best kind of a brother a person could ask for, and I, for one, will miss him terribly.

Cameron Baird  
Chapter Commander

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#### I COMPANY - 182 INFANTRY REGIMENT

DID YOU KNOW THIS MAN?

HORACE A. BENTLEY

Private Bentley was a replacement and apparently joined I Company shortly before the Cebu invasion.

Note from a letter that was received by his wife and written by Bentley's C.O., Lieutenant Donald R. White, "Your husband, while in his fox hole, during a night attack by the enemy at Guadalupe, Cebu, Philippine Islands, was instantly killed by an enemy grenade. Horace was killed on 31 March 1945".

If you served with Horace Bentley or know of him Please contact:

Carlton W. Bentley  
Bakersfield, CA 93308

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#### DIVIDEND HOAX

Dividend announcements are part of a recurring problem of information that dates back to 1965. Unfortunately, this misinformation unnecessarily raises expectations of veterans.

The dividend "hoax" had its origin in a special dividend that the, then, Veterans Administration, did pay to WW II veterans who had National Service Life Insurance. Approximately \$2.7 billion was

paid in 1950 to over 16 million veterans under the "1948 Special Dividend".

A new twist to the hoax in that some groups are asking veterans to pay for assistance in collecting non-existing life insurance dividends.

The dividends now being paid are routine dividends on several policy series, but only to veterans that have kept their policies in force. These veterans receive their dividends automatically on the anniversary date of the individual policy. THEY DO NOT HAVE TO APPLY! No dividends are paid on anyone insured under Serviceman's Group Insurance or Veteran's Group Life Insurance. These are group policies and DO NOT pay dividends.

(Taken from the Massachusetts Legionnaire)

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#### H COMPANY - 182nd INFANTRY

Company H, 182nd Infantry held it annual Reunion on Saturday May27, 2000 at the Silver Fox Restuarant in Everett, MA. A sit-down dinner was served family style and was enjoyed by all.

In attendance were: John Groppi and wife Dolly (Chairmen), Fred Zaino and wife Phyliss (Treasurer), Charles Budreau, Joe Chin and wife Barbara, Maurice Dee, Joseph Gerra, Richard Glencross and wife Helen, Earl Hobart and wife Mary, Hrant Johnson, Michael Lombardo, Michele Lombardo and wife Eleanor, Edward Monsen, William Murphy, James Murphy and wife Alice, Manuel Souza, Joseph Viscarello, Salvatore Vinciullo, Michal Vinciullo, and Mark Palladino.



Front Row L to R: Sal Vinciullo, Michele Lombardo, Charles Budreau, Maurice Dee, Joe Chin, William Murphy. Standing L to R: John Groppi, Fred Zaino, John Gerra, Ed Monsen, Earl Hobart, Joe Viscarello, Hrant Johnson, Michael Lombardo, Richard Glencross and Manuel Souza.

A raffle of \$100.00 in twenty \$5.00 drawings was held.

A donation of \$300.00 was made to the World War II Memorial Fund and mailed to Bernie Chase of the Americal Division Veterans Association..

A good time was had with jokes and tales of our past experiences during our military days. Looking forward to our next Reunion. (God willing.)

John Groppi-Chairman  
Fred Zaino-Treasurer





## 2001 REUNION

### Set Your Azimuth Now For Cleveland, Ohio !

June 21 - 24, 2001

#### Hotel Reservations

The Cleveland Marriott Airport Hotel is only four miles from the airport and ten minutes from downtown Cleveland; Easily accessible from Interstate Highways, I-90, I-77, I-71 and the Pennsylvania, Indiana and Ohio turnpikes. **Make your reservations** by calling toll free: [REDACTED]. Mention: **Americal Division Reunion** for the special room rate of \$85 / night (plus tax) for **single or double occupancy** (the standard corporate rate for this luxury hotel is \$144 / night). All reservations must be guaranteed by a major credit card or one nights room and tax advance deposit. The special room rate will not apply after May 15, 2001. **Make your reservations early for this special event!**

#### Airlines

Special reunion air fare available on Continental Airlines. Call [REDACTED]. Mention: Reference # NSBM6H. Z-Code: **ZVHP**. 23rd Army Infantry Division.



#### Tours

**Friday Morning, June 22nd, Canton, Ohio, Pro Football Hall of Fame**  
Football as you've never experienced it! Six eye-catching exhibit areas, the sensational **Game Day Stadium** turntable theatre, **NFL Films Theatre**, the **NFL Museum Store** the **Twin Enshrinement Halls**, where the greats of Pro Football are honored!

#### **Friday Afternoon, June 22nd, Cleveland, Ohio Rock and Roll Hall of Fame**

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame just isn't another museum. It's a testament to the remarkable history of rock and roll. The museum holds the **worlds largest collection of rock and roll memorabilia, interactive exhibits, hands-on touch screens, rare concert film footage, classic films** and much more!



#### **Saturday Morning until Mid-Afternoon, June 23rd, Sugar Creek, Ohio**

#### **Spouse Tour -- Ohio Amish Country**

Visit the peaceful Ohio countryside, an **Amish craft store, bulk food store, a unique Amish Cheese House**. Lunch will be on your own to explore a variety of food opportunities and experience the warmth and hospitality of the Amish people!



#### **Friday Night Buffet with a Special Salute to World War II Americal Vets!**

#### **Saturday Night Dinner with special guest speaker and great entertainment!**

#### Contact Points

Dave Taylor (evenings) [REDACTED]

Larry Watson (evenings) [REDACTED]

## Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Plaque and Tree

A plaque and tree that were recently placed in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. will recognize the contributions of Americal Division veterans. The plaque and tree were officially received by representatives of the ADVA on Memorial Day, 2000.



Malcolm East, John Insani, John Bowley, Lloyd Morrell, Ed Marsh, Jon Hansen, and Ervin Russell unveil plaque at Arlington cemetery.

The installation of the plaque and tree was the result of several months of dedicated effort on the part of National Commander Ed Marsh. COL John L. Insani of Alexandria, VA assisted him on the local level. The effort required many contacts with various cemetery and government officials before the memorials could be put in place.

The memorial is located on Jessup Drive in Section 34 adjacent to gravestone number 4299. "This is a beautiful site with a panoramic view of Arlington and Washington" said Insani. The bronze plaque, mounted on a cut stone, is easily viewed from Jessup Drive. The tree, a 12' sugar maple, is planted a short distance behind the plaque.

The plaque and tree were installed at a cost of about \$2,000. This cost was paid from funds in the ADVA treasury. A visit to the memorial site has been suggested to be a part of the 2002 Veterans Day ADVA reunion in Washington, D.C.

## Junior Vice-Commander's greeting

To the Americal;

This is just a short note to let you all know that I am very proud to have been elected to the post of Jr. Vice and will do everything in my power to help the Commander in making the Americal as best as it can be. I am sorry that I couldn't make it this year but family problems arouse at the last minute that made it impossible for me to attend but am looking forward in see you all next year in Ohio. My deepest regards goes to the passing of all Americal'ers this past year and especially to the family of one of my best buddies Ernie Carlson. Have a great reunion and I will be looking forward to see all of you next year.

Rich Scales, Junior Vice-Commander

## Memorial Day wreath placed at the Tomb of the Unknowns



The Americal Division Veterans Association presented a memorial wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day, 2000. Representing the ADVA in the ceremony were John and Ruby Bowley, Lloyd Morrell, and Beverly (Mrs. Malcolm) East. They are pictured above saluting the tomb after the placement of the memorial wreath.

## Warrior of the Pacific award

COL John L. Insani was presented the Warrior of the Pacific award by William T. Honjiyo at the 2000 reunion in San Antonio. This is a prestigious award given to a military person who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and courage. The trophy is a warrior's head that represents King Kamehameha I, the conqueror of the eight islands of Hawaii.

Honjiyo was Insani's XO when Insani commanded the 11th LIB in Vietnam. Honjiyo had the job to make sure that Insani received recognition from the staff, officers, and men of the 11th LIB upon Insani's departure from the brigade. However, Honjiyo departed Vietnam before Insani and the award was never presented.

Benjamin J. Cayetano, Governor of Hawaii, sent a message of congratulations to Insani. It read, in part, "You have been recognized for your outstanding service to your country as commanding officer of the 11th Light Infantry Brigade- involved in intense combat duty in Vietnam in 1970 and 1971. The nucleus of this unit was formed in Hawaii at Schofield Barracks in 1967, and was deployed to the war zone that same year. Your leadership, your tactical innovation, and your unwavering concern for their welfare inspired the men who served under your command in Vietnam."

Honjiyo received contact information on Insani at the 1999 reunion in St. Louis. He then made plans to present the award, almost 30 years late, at the 2000 ADVA reunion. Honjiyo comments "We from the 11th Infantry Brigade are relentless and will get the job done."

## Next newsletter deadline

The fourth quarter newsletter deadline is October 31, 2000. Please have items submitted to the Editor-in-Chief or the Vietnam Editor well before the deadline for consideration in the next issue of the Americal Newsletter. Manuscripts and photos cannot be returned.





(Left to right, top to bottom) Al Cotta (center), a founding member of ADVA, joins other members at the business meeting. Jim Buckle, Bernie Chase, and Ed Marsh open the business meeting. Incoming National Commander Ron Ellis, Sr. Vice-Commander Malcolm East, and immediate Past National Commander Ed Marsh. Reunion Chairman Bill Bacon. Reunion guests Norberto "Beto" Rivas and daughter Connie, San Benito, TX. PNC Bill Maddox extends thanks to PFC Gail Dennison and PFC Robert Alvin, Ft. Sam Houston



(Left to right, top to bottom) Banquet speakers: Nicky D. Bacon, Medal of Honor recipient; Angelina Bonetti, daughter of SSG Freddie Bonetti, HHC, 5/46<sup>th</sup> Inf., 198<sup>th</sup> LIB, KIA January, 1969; Clyde Kornegay, cadet at Texas A&M University in College Station, TX; Cameron Baird, incoming South Midwest Chapter Commander. John Matthew, Great Lakes Chapter Commander, plays the electric cane. Representing Ernie Carlson: Fay Carlson, Terry Sifford, Kathy Garcia, and Jackie Black. National Commander Ron Ellis flanked by mother Estelle (Naw Naw) and wife Donna. John Bowley, Jay Martel, and Larry O'Boyle enjoy after dinner conversation.



(Left to right, top to bottom) Mr. and Mrs. Jesus R. Rios, El Paso, TX, take a break at the town square in Fredericksburg. Diners enjoy lunch in the Altdorf's biergarten in Fredericksburg. Pablo Flores, Jr., Doss Kornegay, and Ken Ruesch display their brotherhood. Larry Gelnett (standing), 23rd MP Co., fends off good-natured jibes during the business meeting introductions. COL John Insani (Ret.), William Honjiyo, and PNC Ed Marsh enjoy a post-banquet conversation. Combat Medic's memorial at Ft. Sam Houston.

**James Patrick Casey, 1LT, Infantry, (retired), commanded the 3rd Plt. of Co. C, 3/1st Inf., 11th LIB. He was WIA on June 12, 1968.**

**If Vietnam is a part of you, you simply cannot avoid it.** Each of us, I would think, has a different perception of this sorrow. Each of us deals with it in one's own individual way. I would suggest to you, in a very strong and respectful fashion, that sorrow is the hallmark of Vietnam. Please understand, as I am sure you do, that this is my perception, these are my feelings. I put them out into the air and let them go their way.

I came to the conclusion some years ago that I would never "put Vietnam behind me." It is as much a part of me, if not more so, than my ancient paper route, the way a summer breeze felt when I was eight years old or the overall wonder of my childhood. I have learned to use what this sorrow has given me to try to produce happiness.

I had great difficulties in my early years after the war putting it into perspective and accepting the fact that it was a part of me forever. For five years I could not sleep unless I had a loaded .45 under my pillow; literally, I could not get to sleep without it. Finally, a night came when I did sleep without it. Slowly, ever so slowly, I made peace with my demons. I gave them some room and we have existed together in rather comfortable fashion for a long time. I realize that they are not something separate and apart from me. They are me.

My sorrow from the War is not the personal deprivations I experienced (living conditions, etc.) nor is it the loss of so many comrades (though it takes my breath away to this day). My sorrow, certainly, is not my wounds or the stinking malaria that still comes back every now and again. My sorrow, for all time, will be the children. I saw so many of them killed and wounded.

I had two experiences in the jungle where children died as a result of my actions. In one instance, we were involved in a vicious firefight in a small ville; the kind of firefight that comes over you like a sneeze with its suddenness. I tossed a grenade into a hootch that several VC had run into a moment earlier. An instant before it went off, a five year old boy ran out of nowhere past the hootch. The grenade went off and blew a grapefruit size hole in his side. I ran to him and picked him up. He bled out white in my arms in thirty seconds.

The second event was another firefight where I and two of my troopers saw a figure running away at a great distance. Commands to halt went unheeded and we fired. The figure dropped. When I approached, it turned out to be a young lad of about 11-12 years old, unarmed. A good portion of his skull was gone. He was still alive and we were taking heavy fire.

I knew he was going to die and I knew I could never get a medevac in for him. I gave him a syrette of morphine thinking that with the head wound it would kill him. It did not. The heavy fire continued. We had to get out quick. He was holding onto my thigh with an iron grip. I ordered my men to leave and put a round through his head.

These, then, are my Vietnamese babies, as I have always called them. They are with me every day, and not a day passes that I do not think of them and talk to them in some way. They are my sorrow. They are my cross. They are my Vietnam. There are some days, every now and again, when I am driving down the road and I think of them and begin crying in an uncontrollable fashion. It passes and I am fine. To this day, I have a great deal of difficulty in even listening to a child cry. It breaks my heart. These events took place in war; yet they belong to me.

There are times, not infrequently, when I am infuriated by having had this experience of Vietnam. My wife of thirty years, to this day, knows not to walk up behind me. A loud, unexpected noise causes me to start for the ground. I look at a piece of terrain in a military terms: fields of fire, high ground, ridge lines, etc., and then I look at the beauty of the land. I cannot sit in a restaurant without being able

to see the majority of people there. I wonder what my life would have been like without all of this.

Yet I would not give it up. The Good Lord, in His mysterious way, allowed me to see and experience all of this and then gave me the strength to put it into a proper perspective. I have learned that you have to make your own light in the darkness. No one else can do it for you. If you do not make your own light, then you will become the darkness. I never wanted that to happen to me.

Do not carry unnecessary crosses. Vietnam pierced my heart. There is no room in it for anybody other than my Vietnamese babies. I hope that all of you have made some peace with this darkness that is Vietnam. I refuse to let it damage or hurt me anymore than it has already done. I can look it square in the eye now; yet it has been a crawl up the mountain to be able to say that. It is amazing, truly amazing, what we can absorb and how we can endure

*"I have beheld the agonies of war through many a weary season; seen enough to make me hold that scarcely any goal is worth the reaching by so red a road." Thomas Hardy*

### We have all walked in that far off, dark world.

We have all spoken to demons. We have all been allowed to return with the knowledge and wisdom we gathered in that terrible place. The passing of the years has taught me that, in the midst of that gargoyle world, there was beauty. The beauty is in the lessons of life learned in that place and carried forth into our respective lives.

I have no doubt that each of us has been successful in our respective endeavors because of these lessons. I have no doubt that each of us is viewed in our respective communities with some degree of awe (overt or covert) as having been through what few humans ever experience. I have no doubt that each of us sees life differently than most other humans because of the lessons. I have no doubt that each of us views a child, hears a laugh or observes the simplest things in life differently than most other humans because of the lessons.

We are, each of us, messengers. I think that each one of us realizes this fact. I think that each one of us recognizes and welcomes, with open arms, the enormous responsibility of being such a messenger. One has to be a gentleman to have walked this far. There is no doubt in my mind that you are a gentleman. As proud as I am to have been given the task of the messenger, I am as equally proud to walk with you.

*"And yet, and yet, Is this my dream or the truth?"*

*William Butler Yeats*

### A tribute

To all those American crosses throughout the world,  
To all those magnificent Americans who loved their country enough to give up their lives,  
To all who answered the call whenever and wherever,  
To all who left behind loved ones because they did love them,  
To all who suffered the wounds of battle either in flesh or spirit,  
To all who had the courage to walk on the Dark Side,  
To all who live with the ghosts of that faraway place,  
I am humbled by your quiet dignity.  
I am awed by your unselfishness.  
I am proud to have walked with you.  
On this Independence Day, I do not forget you.  
Rather, I celebrate you.  
You are the colors of The Flag  
And the breeze that gently moves it.  
Thank you, my dear friends.

*God Bless:*

*Charlie Three Zero Out*



**COL Richard F. Carvell (Ret.), former commander of the 1/46th Infantry, toured Vietnam in May, 2000. He and his group visited the former 1/46th Inf. locations at FSB Professional and FSB Mary Ann. The following is his report on this portion of the trip. -VN Editor**

Returning to Vietnam was a remarkable event! We followed an ambitious schedule and accomplished much more than planned. But we needed an extra day. We tried to get to LZ Professional and FB Mary Ann in one day. It was too much!

We launched early one morning from Tam Ky and motored to Thien Phouc on a heavily traveled two-lane road. We then headed South to LZ Professional on a rough, dirt road. By the time we walked to the top of Professional it was about 11:00 AM.

We took pictures at Professional. We saw a little barbed wire, a few old sandbags, impressions where I had my bunker, the landing pad, our underground sensors. We also saw the site of our logistics pad and mess hall. There was very little else to see.

The hills to the south (LZ Boxer), LZ Mildred to the west, and the valley to the east were all very clear. It gave me the feeling that our being there had not been long past.

The trek up the hill at LZ Pro was exhausting. The weather was very hot. By the time we descended we were overheated and winded, but we had to push onward.

We were pushing to hit FB Mary Ann, our main objective, then be back at Tam Ky for a 7:00 PM dinner meeting with three NLF Colonels. They fought in our area and led units against us.

I had a hunch that we were attempting too much. I had violated a cardinal rule: "Move slowly when it's cool, avoid travel when possible during the heat of the day." We needed to conserve energy, to be fresh, to observe the trails, to listen and lie in wait, etc. Above all, we needed to keep each day's movement within reason.

After a much needed break and "cooling down" at the base of LZ Professional we set out for old Hau Duc, now called Tra My, to affect coordination and to obtain final approval from the officials. The dirt road from LZ Pro to Tra My was nearly impassible. It was a Sunday and we lost time waiting for the government representatives.

After securing permission from the officials, we set out for FB Mary Ann. We traveled on a dirt road, part of the former Dak Rose Trail that led to the Song Tranh. We stopped on the Southeast side of the river and had lunch at a native crossing point.

The locals agreed to ferry us over the Song Tranh, but insisted that we cross about 1.5 Km south of the firebase. They said this was because of the impending danger of the

rapids to the east of Mary Ann and the "bear traps" located along the most direct route.

The real reason was that we had to meet with the local village chief at his hootch on the northwest side of the river. It was a good meeting, a renewal that ended about 1:30 PM. I left some pictures taken by Tim Baldwin of local "yards" and the plaque Tim left on Mary Ann several years ago. The plaque remains, but was unapproachable because of recently emplaced animal traps.

We were provided two fresh guides and were off on a circuitous route encircling the hill in a west-northwesterly direction. We moved along the trail for about 1 1/2 hours, keeping Mary Ann plainly in view almost the entire way. It was badly overgrown and there was not much to see.

The clearings of the Agent Blue and Purple defoliants on and around the FB were overcome by bamboo, banana trees, and other vegetation. Scattered along the trail were several hooches, with ducks, pigs, and water buffalo in great numbers.

At a point due west of Mary Ann we were met by every native of that area--kids, mama-sans, and papa-sans. All were friendly and curious. They had a sort of a coke stand set up. They had Tiger Beer, Ba Ba Ba, Coke and orange drinks, cigarettes, and even Wrigley's Gum. They apparently brought these items from Tra My or Thien Phouc.

It was late and time for a break and reassessment. Bob was overheated. He needed to lie down near a cool stream. Katy was not up to making a final fast climb just to see the top of a hill from another angle.

I wanted to go, but I felt it best to remain with my cohorts. I was limping and felt that I would slow up John, the guide, and our interpreter. John was hurting badly, but anxious to go for the sake of curiosity and to take pictures. He made it, but just barely.

The trek to the top, through the adjacent rice paddy and the thick bamboo, was too quick and a disappointment. John only had a chance to see the old "water point" and some footers, but not much else. He didn't have time for more. Our former home was overgrown badly. To do the trip justice, a day and perhaps a night would be needed for Mary Ann alone.

Meanwhile, excitement peaked at our location. While Bob rested, Katy and I worked the crowd. I started off by buying each of the kids and mama-sans a soft drink and for the men a beer. I believe that cost me between 50,000-70,000 Dong, about \$4.00.

Then I broke out the gum and taffy I had carried in my backpack and let the ladies distributed those. Then I pulled out a beautiful red, white and blue "sky-diving" patch that we used in Puerto Rico. I presented the patch to a Montagnard guide,

about age 59, who had remained with us. He liked that.

I then broke out the cigars, remembering the Montagnard fondness for strong tobacco. Katy and I blew smoke with the natives. It was jubilation. Albeit I detest tobacco! The people were all smiles and in bewilderment at this expression of Americana. Katy was busy snapping pictures and laughing and saying "This is awesome".

I saw two older faces that were unmistakably familiar, probably Chieu Hoi's that surrendered to us about 28 July 70. The Montagnard guide, mentioned above, turned out to be the VC Captain who led the probe on FB Mary Ann during mid-summer of 1970. He was also with the 409th VC Sapper Bn. in the attack on 28 March 1971.

He was friendly and respectful. He said that he was so happy to see us go, that we had beat them up badly. He had fought with the 70th and 72nd VC Battalions, both of which opposed us around Professional, Regina and Mary Ann. When I told him how happy I was to see him alive, tears came to his eyes. He invited us to stop by his home.

While at his home, I took off my new FB Mary Ann commemorative T-Shirt and presented it to him as a momento of an era of the past and as a token of appreciation for their sincere friendship. The moment was touching! I sensed a new era, a time of hope. This meeting of former warriors made the entire trip worthwhile.

It was late and time to go. I donned a fresh T-Shirt with an African scene, which pictured an encounter between a snake and some white men with a caption in French "We come in Peace".

So much had been accomplished. The FB Mary Ann area of operations is unlike every other. It is wild, eerie, rough and isolated. Katie kept asking, "How could you guys take this? I've seen nothing to match this. Wait till I talk to my dad". It was awesome!

I was bewildered, seeing hootches, candy and cold drinks in those parts and men and women wearing clothes now instead of loincloths. Progress!

These are my lessons learned: A trip to Mary Ann requires 1-2 days. Find a shorter route, perhaps crossing farther north on the Song Tranh, a couple of hundred meters short of the rapids, then approach the hill from either the south or the southwest. This will call for prior coordination. Treat the natives with kindness and respect and your trip will be joyful. I was blessed, wounding up with John Clark and Katy Spilberg as companion travelers.

The dinner meeting with former enemy officers at Tam Ky, later that night, turned out to be another great highlight. More about that sometime.

**Richard F. Carvell**

**LTG Lawson W. Magruder, III is Deputy Commanding General/Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army Forces Command. He was commissioned in the Infantry in 1969 as a Distinguished Military Graduate of the University of Texas in Austin. In Vietnam he served as a Platoon Leader with the Americal Division's 11th LIB.**

Please comment on your duty with the Americal Division in Vietnam. Do you have a special story about the time, place, or people that you would like to tell?

I served in the 11th Brigade of the Americal Division from September, 1970 to September, 1971. I was a Platoon Leader in Co. B, 3/1st Infantry and then Assistant Brigade S-3 (TOC duty officer). As a platoon leader we operated west of Quang Ngai City off of Fire Base 411. Our primary mission was to interdict and destroy Viet Cong in our Area of Operations. As an Assistant Brigade S-3, I deployed with the Brigade Headquarters to Dong Ha in Quang Tri province on Operation 719.

My year in Vietnam was full of many lessons learned that I have carried with me for the past 30 years of service. When speaking to military and civilian audiences, I share the following lessons:

The War lasted over 10 years with every year being different. Students of the Vietnam War should not draw snap conclusions based on one article or book or distorted Hollywood movie.

Leaders need to focus on their piece of the Army. Don't worry about higher headquarters. Work your own "lane". Set high standards.

The basics reinforced under realistic training conditions will work in combat.

Leaders need to get to know everything about their soldiers and their families in order to care for them when tragedy occurs.

Teamwork is the key to success. It's foundation is open communications.

Family and Faith are so important to your peace of mind in combat.

I will always recall the beautiful country of Vietnam with the pure white beaches of Chu Lai; the incredible rice terraces of the central highlands; the beautiful but dangerous triple jungle canopy and elephant grass; the special mothers and children of Vietnam-always neatly dressed, trying to maintain a normal life amidst the dangerous environment of war

I remember long days of being constantly on the move, on foot, or by helicopter, loaded down with ammunition and the bare essentials. I remember sweating profusely, cutting through thick brush, trying to find the enemy first before he saw or heard us. Then nights of a maximum of 3-4 hours sleep often

times being eaten up by mosquitoes or laying in constant rain.

I'll remember periods of excitement, terror, and anguish when we made contact with the enemy or encountered a mine or bobby trap and saw one of our brothers seriously maimed or killed by an enemy we couldn't see. In fact the saddest day of my life was in early October, 1970 when I had an entire squad of my soldiers killed from a Viet Cong command detonated mine on the road from Quang Ngai City to Hill 411. Their names are on the Vietnam Wall in Washington, DC. I visit there every year to honor and pray for them and their families.



**LTG Lawson W. Magruder, III**

What changes have you seen in the past 30 years in the military? What changes do you think were brought about because of the experiences of the Vietnam war?

Technological advances in lethality of our weapon systems; our ability to own the night with incredible night observations equipment; and enhanced situational awareness through improved long range communications, digitized systems, and global positioning.

Our ability to train to clearly articulated tasks, conditions and standards. Our entire training system has been revamped to include more battle focused collective training that is conducted under realistic conditions with feedback provided to the soldier after engagements. We now have multiple integrated laser engagement systems (MILES) that indicate when the enemy has hit a soldier. We have also developed a tool called an After Action Review (AAR) whereby we have observer/controllers who observe the action then do an analysis of unit performance in an AAR. This is a tremendous tool for feedback on individual soldier, leader and unit performance.

Our NCO development system has also been totally revamped. At every NCO grade there is a formal school to help prepare the NCO for the next grade. Our NCO education

system (NCOES) is the best in the world and the envy of other Armies. Our NCO Corps is in the best shape ever in its history.

The absolute commitment by our leaders to take care of their soldiers' families-particularly during deployments. Our family support and rear detachment systems are firmly in place down to company level. We understand the importance of families and loved ones to soldier morale during a mission.

I believe all of these major improvements came as a result of our Vietnam experience. There are many others but these are (I believe) the most important.

What was your most remarkable assignment? What are your plans for the future regarding your military career?

I've been truly blessed to have many wonderful assignments to include command of our premier Joint Readiness Training Center at Ft Polk, US Army South in Panama, and my beloved 10th Mountain Division at Ft Drum. But the most remarkable and the one that had the greatest influence on me was command of a newly formed Ranger Company in 1975-1976 followed by duty on the staff of the newly activated 2d Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment.

This was my second company command and it clearly defined for me the standard in four important areas: teamwork and open communications are the keys to success in a high performing organization; training must be conducted under the most realistic conditions; you must empower your NCOs to do their job; you must truly take care of soldiers and their families. This assignment was the foundation for me in subsequent command and staff positions. It was a turning point for me.

My plans for the future are to continue to continue to enjoy my spouse and best friend of 31 years, Gloria, and to proudly serve as Deputy Commanding General/Chief of Staff for our Army's largest major command (over 700K soldiers) for another year. My current appointment as a Lieutenant General is for two years (to 2001). I will continue to relish every minute I can serve in Army green.

Do you have a special message you would like to send to the veterans of the Americal Division?

My message to my fellow veterans of the Americal Division is quite simple: You will never be forgotten. You should be proud of your service in combat to our Nation, to our Army and in our great Division. You truly went the extra mile under the most challenging conditions. You will never be forgotten. Hold your heads high and stand proud. You are great Americans who answered the call!



**5th reunion for Co. C, 5/46th Inf.**

"Charlie Company", 5/46th Infantry, 198th LIB, had another great turnout at the ADVA National Reunion in San Antonio. Seventeen former members from 1970-71, most of whom served together in the same squads and platoons, gathered with family and friends for their fifth annual reunion held in conjunction with the ADVA reunions.



Sixty-five long lost friends have been found so far and we are still searching. Call [REDACTED]

**David Hammond**

Dear Editor,

Great job in putting all that order-of-battle data together on the ADVA website. For your information, 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (when it was part of Task Force Oregon), was re-designated as the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division in September, 1967, with headquarters at Duc Pho.

The 3rd Brigade remained with TFO and attached to the Americal Division for quite a while, spending Tet '68 at LZ Baldy. Later the brigade was at LZ English until the Spring of 1968 when it returned to Kontum and 4th Division control.

I was with Detachment 2, 374th Radio Research Company (ASA), 3rd Brigade, 4th ID from September, 1967 through its attachment/OPCON with TFO/Americal Division until the brigade rejoined 4th ID in 1968.

**Steve Zawacki**, [REDACTED]  
Chuluota, FL

Dear Editor,

I've set up a site with user submitted profiles for members of the 1/46th Inf. who served in RVN with the 198th LIB and then later the 196th LIB. I invite 1/46 vets to go to <http://www.mall-la.com/1stof46/> and submit a profile and/or sign our guest book.

I served with D/146 as a platoon leader in 1968 when it was with the 198th LIB and we were based out of Hill 69.

**Ken Sukimoto**, [REDACTED]

Dear Editor,

I am looking for fellow members of the heavy weapons and recon platoon, Co. E, 1/52nd Inf., 198th LIB. Several of us got wounded

on August 16, 1968: SFC Puentes, SGT Meeth, myself, and several Marines. A Vietnamese that we were training dropped a lit cigarette into a box containing unused 4.2" mortar charges. This set off an explosion that almost completely took out the command group. The Army classified the event as an accident, although I understand that the Vietnamese responsible died running away across the rice paddy.

**Robert D. Robinson**, [REDACTED], Rosemead, CA, 91770

Dear Editor,

I received some photos of some guys I was with in Vietnam but I cannot remember their names. I was with Co. A, 3/1st Inf., 11th LIB.



After a short time there I was transferred to the 82nd Artillery. If anyone recognizes these guys please get in touch with me. Write to 67 Gannett Rd., Farmington, NY, 14425 or call [REDACTED]

**Bob Miller**

Dear Editor,

How do I go about getting my Silver Star and my Bronze Star? I was with Co. B, 3/21st Inf., 196th LIB, in 1968. We operated out of Tam Ky and once went to the DMZ, Hue Valley, and then back. My buddies all received their medals but not me. My sergeant was Bill Ochs, a very smart man, who saved many of our lives, including mine.

One day we had to take a hill near Tam Ky because word was out that "Charlie" was there. We took a break about mid-day half way up the hill. We stopped for hot chow and church services. I went to the Chaplain and told him that I was going to get hit. Little did I know that when we moved out again I was in the point squad.

Sure enough, "Charlie" was on the hill and I got pinned down. The rest of the company was down the hill from me. I tried to get out of my spot because I did not want to be taken POW. I got shot through the chest.

I got hit on June 5, 1968. If anyone knows me I would appreciate some help. I would like to hear from my buddies and to contact Reed Scott. I would like help in getting my medals. Write to [REDACTED] Oneida, NY, 13421 or call [REDACTED]

**David L. Harp, Sr.**

**From the Vietnam Historian,**

Many people have been sending me documents about the Americal Division in Vietnam to add to my collection. I want to thank Don Fox for contributing 4/3rd Infantry battalion journals and Dan Young for sending in 1/52nd Infantry battalion journals. Dan has provided the ADVA historian with 15 months of S2-S3 journals. This is a whole box of paper that cost at least \$.25 per page to obtain from the National Archives.

Al Andzik is working on the 1971 stand down book. He is working on the graphic images and getting them and the text on a CD-ROM. I have received a letter from a former 1/52nd Infantry Command Sergeant Major who later became the 198th LIB CSM. He is going to donate materials that he has. I am hopeful he has some exciting new material.

Don Van Estenbridge (23rd MP) and Jimmie D. Simmons (E Trp 1/1st Cav) have requested some materials to transcribe. I sent them each about three months of typing. Carl Zipperer (176th Aviation Assault Helicopter Company) and his wife Celeste have a job change. They may be moving to Georgia. I hope I won't miss their great help and support long as they plan to move to Georgia.

**Vietnam Records Database  
CD-ROM  
Now Available**

The Americal Division Veteran's Association Data Base is available on CD-ROM to ADVA members. The CD-ROM contains the Americal Division ORLL (Operational Reports and Lessons Learned) as the base data. There are many other items from the national archives such as Daily Staff Journals and historical summaries provided to me by individuals. Many of the articles published from the Americal Division Information Office are on the CD-ROM. These include the magazine AMERICAL, the newspaper UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS, and the "standown" yearbook.

There are a couple units that have done an outstanding job of acquiring historical items. The 5/46th Inf, 1st/1st Cav, 1/52nd Inf., 1/46th Inf. and others have provided some pretty good materials. Of the group I think that the 5/46th Inf. may have done the best job.

One problem with the historical database is that there are new items being added weekly. I can provide some updates, but I need to know the file types someone would be interested in as well as subject, and of course the e-mail address. The updates can be sent by e-mail file attachments.

I have two versions of the text files. One set of files is in Word Perfect 5.0 or MS-DOS Text so that someone can run quick scans for keywords through the files with a DOS based word processor like Word Perfect 5.0. Another set of files is in Microsoft Word 6.0 for people who have windows based word processors.

I converted the files from diskette format to CD-ROM format. The diskette format was basically how many files could I put in a folder before I exceeded the 1.4 meg diskette capacity. The CD-ROM format allows me to group documents together in folders. There are several scanned images of maps and photos for those who have graphic programs on their computers. I try to personalize the CD-ROM labels with the name, unit, tour year(s), and the LZ/location served.

I could very much use some additional assistance in this effort. The type of work we need include transcribing documents from paper to electronic media, editing data, indexing documents by unit/subject, scanning documents and graphics, and extracting names from the documents for the membership committee. Volunteers should contact me directly.

**The Americal March**

I recently uncovered information about a song titled The Americal March. With a little more research I found a place to purchase a recording of this song. It is available to ADVA members on a CD.

The Americal March as we know it is in actuality the "Dogface Soldier," the official song of the 3rd Infantry Division and the unofficial song of all infantrymen. Written by two infantrymen; Ken Hart, a former newspaperman and Bert Gold, a former sign painter, the "catchy" tune has found its way to Vietnam and into the hearts of infantrymen in the Americal. Here are the lyrics:

I wouldn't give a bean to be a fancy pants Marine;  
I'd rather be a Dogface Soldier like I am.  
I wouldn't trade my old OD's for all the Navy dungarees.  
For I am the walking pride of Uncle Sam.  
On all the posters that I read it say's "The Army builds men."  
But they're tearing me down to build me over again.  
I'm just a Dog Face Soldier with a rifle on my shoulder  
And I eat raw meat for breakfast everyday.  
So feed me ammunition; keep me in my old division  
For your Dog Face Soldier Boy is Okay, ...Okay,  
Your Dog Face Soldier Boy's okay.

For a CD of The Americal March send \$5.00, for a CD-ROM of the database, send \$10.00. Make checks payable to ADVA. Mail your request to Leslie Hines, ADVA Vietnam Historian, [REDACTED] Des Moines, IA, 50312-2609. You can contact Les via e-mail at [REDACTED] or phone [REDACTED].

**Book News**

Jim McLeroy, a Special Forces veteran of the May, 1968 battle of Kham Duc SF camp (on the Laotian border of I Corps, 75 air miles west of Tam Ky), is writing a history of that battle together with his co-author, John Del Vecchio, author of the best-selling Vietnam novel, The 13th Valley. The book is in final editing at this time.

CW0-4 Frank Anton (Ret.), author of Why Didn't You Get Me Out?, writes "I am getting ready for the paperback of my book to come out and therefore would like to move the hardbacks. I would be happy to sign and send a copy to any of our Americal Division members. Just send eighteen dollars and I will pay the postage. I will also donate \$5 for each book to the Association." Mail orders to Frank Anton, 730 Palm Drive, Satellite Beach, FL, 32937.

The 4-11 Hill Association has prepared a book. The main person working on this book and an upcoming revision is COL Leslie J. Stottle (Ret.) The book is of great interest to veterans of the 3/1st Infantry and Btry. D, 6/11th Artillery who served on Hill 4-11 from 1969 through 1971. The contact for details on ordering the book is Hill 4-11 Association; Dick Hill, Treas.; [REDACTED]; Kent, OH, 44240-2664.

COL James F. Humphries (Ret.) seeks to contact 196th LIB veterans for assistance with the research for his next book. He would like to hear from those familiar with the attack on FSB East in June, 1969 and the action in the Hiep Duc Valley and around Hill 102. His period of interest is May-August, 1969. He can be contacted by writing him at [REDACTED], 83667, Reichersbeuren, Germany or via e-mail at [REDACTED]

LTC David Taylor is writing book on the history of the 5/46th Infantry. His is on activation at Ft. Hood through May, 1968. He would like to talk to anyone in that time frame. Contact: David W. Taylor, [REDACTED], Medina, OH, 44256, [REDACTED]



Dear Editor,

I was assigned to the 182nd Infantry, Headquarters Company, as M/Sgt, Operations, in early 1945. I was present when we made the beachhead at the invasion of Cebu, P.I. After the armistice, I remained with the 182nd Infantry during its occupation duty at Fuchinobe, Japan, but was re-assigned, in grade, as Regimental Sgt/Major in September, 1945. I returned to the United States with the regiment for separation in November, 1945.

I have tried to pick up information about the WW II history of the Regiment and the Americal Division on the web, but have failed with each attempt. Can you provide any information that will enlighten me as to the history of the formation of the Americal and it's units?

Jack London, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], Hickory, NC, 28601, [REDACTED]

Dear Editor,

Enclosed is a photo of me in Vietnam. Note armored car's name---  
AGGRAVATION



Matthew Hearon, Rockledge, FL

Dear Editor,

I am seeking information about my uncle, Clifford E. Tilbury. He passed a few months ago. He was in the Americal Division, assigned to Co. C, 164th Infantry, as a rifleman, from 1942 to 1945.

I have records which show the following: Military Qualification: Rifle M-1 Marksman, Combat Infantry Badge; Battles and Campaigns: Guadalcanal, Northern Solomons, and Southern Philippines; Decorations and Citations: Presidential Unit Citation with star, Good Conduct Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Theater Service Medal; Six Overseas service bars, and several others.

I have searched the internet and found several items about the 164th and Task Force 6814. None of the family ever knew about these units and Uncle Cliff would never talk about his time in the war.

Kandy Hoeye, [REDACTED] Sioux Falls, SD, 57105  
[REDACTED]

Dear Editor,

I wonder if I might be so bold as to call upon the assistance of your association members? I have recently written a book on U.S. military baseball in Europe during WWII and I am planning to write a similar work on military baseball in the Pacific.

Whether played on the elaborate diamonds of the Hawaiian Islands or just a game of catch on a former battlefield, baseball was one of the few assessable distractions from combat and served as a significant morale booster and a reminder of back-home traditions. And yet these events have gone unrecorded for all these years.

I would be pleased to hear from anyone, veterans or relatives, who can offer memories or photographs of baseball in the Pacific. My e-mail address and regular mail address are listed below. Many thanks for your anticipated co-operation.

Gary Bedingfield, [REDACTED], Enfield, [REDACTED] Great Britain  
[REDACTED]

Dear Editor,

I am trying to find information about my grandfather, Edward Feininger. He was born in Dickinson, North Dakota in 1920, and died there in 1964 or 1965. I wrote to the National Archives to find out about his military career, but they didn't have much due to his records being burned in a fire in 1973. What they did tell me was that he joined the North Dakota National Guard in November, 1940 and was discharged in September, 1945. He attained the rank of Staff Sergeant, and I do know that he fought on Guadalcanal. There is a picture of him standing with a mortar crew on Guadalcanal in a rare Time-Life book about the war, but I have never seen it.

The reason I believe that he was with the 164th Inf. Regt. is that I know it was a unit of the North Dakota National Guard and was the first army unit to fight on Guadalcanal. It is an educated guess, but I think a pretty good one. I know it is not much to go on, but any help would be greatly appreciated. It would mean so much to my father and I, as neither of us got to know him. Thank you again.

Chris Bremseth, [REDACTED]  
Timonium, MD, 21093, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear Editor,

Great job in putting all that order-of-battle data together on the ADVA website. For your information, 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (when it was part of Task Force Oregon), was re-designated as the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division in September, 1967, with headquarters at Duc Pho.

The 3rd Brigade remained with TFO and attached to the Americal Division for quite a while, spending Tet '68 at LZ Baldy. Later the brigade was at LZ English until the Spring of 1968 when it returned to Kontum and 4th Division control.

I was with Detachment 2, 374th Radio Research Company (ASA), 3rd Brigade, 4th ID from September, 1967 through its attachment/OPCON with TFO/Americal Division until the brigade rejoined 4th ID in 1968.

Steve Zawacki, [REDACTED] >  
Chuluota, FL

*Editor's Note: Please indicate in your letters to the editors whether or not you are requesting your letter to be published in the newsletter. Sometimes it is difficult to tell if the letter is meant to be a personal note or a submission for the newsletter. Thanks for the help.*

## Vietnam Vet an ADVA member since 1969



Dear Editor,

I was in the Americal Division with the 23rd MP Co. from May, 1969 to April, 1970. I spent a couple of months at Chu Lai before being sent to Duc Pho. I am a life member of ADVA. I joined in 1969 while I was in Viet Nam and have had continuous membership.

My father, Daniel G. Merlin, was ADVA National Commander in 1972-1973. He and I were both ADVA members at the same time. He was a World War II vet and passed away in 1979. My father was very active in ADVA and even did the newsletter for quite a while. Some of the members that I remember from back then are Tom McQuade, Ed Vieira, Bill McGoldrick and Henry Morash.

I have another interesting fact regarding the ADVA. During my Vietnam tour I returned home to Boston on emergency leave due to a death in the family. While I was in Boston I went to an ADVA monthly meeting and participated in a project.

The ADVA was shipping books to Viet Nam and I helped to pack and load them. There was a picture taken of all of us loading the books into a truck. This picture was at one time hanging on the wall of the ADVA museum. Of course, I have a copy myself. I bet that I was the only active member of the Americal Division to ever attend and participate in an ADVA function or event.

Rich Merlin, [REDACTED], Riverside, Ca.

Dear Editor,

I am wanting to find a few men that were with Charles Ray Anderson in Vietnam to assist me in obtaining VA benefits for him. He was in-country during October, 1969-1970 with HHC, 1/20th Inf., 11th LIB. Write to Charles Ray Anderson, [REDACTED] Riverside, CA. 92507, [REDACTED]

Marvin Copeland

Dear Editor,

I served in the 1/6th Infantry from July, 1970 to July, 1971. My duties included Co. B Platoon Leader, Co. E Recon Platoon Leader, Co. B Commander, Co. C Platoon Leader, and S-3 Air/Assistant S-3. My duty was interrupted by a crash and subsequent stay in the 91st Evac. in Chu Lai and the 249th General Hospital in Japan.

While doing research at the National Archives II prior to my retirement from the Army last June I came across the S2/S3/S5

Journal entries that I made about an incident 30 years ago. I was the Duty Officer in the TOC when the incident occurred. I would like to contact anyone with additional information about the incident.

26 February 1971

On 26 February 1971, a five ton military truck, bumper number 39 A 22, was ambushed while on the way from Quang Ngai t Chu Lai, Vietnam. The driver, PFC Robert Macklan, and a passenger, PFC Donald Tittle, had left Cramer Compound at 1800 hours and headed north on highway QL1. Because of the impending darkness, they should have remained in Quang Ngai. Instead, they opted to head to Chu Lai. Unfortunately, they were ambushed by the Viet Cong at BS586 948, approximately one mile north of the bridge over the Song Tra Bong outside of Binh Son. The truck windshield was struck by three bullets, while the truck body was perforated by numerous rounds. The truck ran off the road, hit a ditch, and then overturned.

At 2015 hours, the Binh Son District officer reported to the Tactical Operations Center at LZ Dottie that Popular Force soldiers at Binh Son had heard the sounds of small arms fire and what sounded like an exploding B40 rocket from the ambush. They sent a patrol to investigate. At 2030 hours, the forces at Binh Son fired 81 mm mortar illumination rounds for their relief force. Fifteen minutes later, they reported that one U.S. soldier had been wounded in the ambush, while the other soldier was missing in action! It turned out that the outer soldier had escaped from the vehicle before the Viet Cong Arrived. He hid in the rice fields alongside the road. At 2050 hours he was discovered by the Popular Force soldiers and was no longer accounted for as missing. The popular Force soldiers from PF 03 remained in the area, secured the truck, and set up an ambush for any remaining Viet Cong.

At 2055 hours, Sabre 40 arrived on station and checked out the area. He reported that he could not see where the truck had hit a mine. To him, it looked like the truck had run off the road and then hit a ditch, tearing out the front axle. The truck was upside down, but did not appear to have been damaged from explosives.

The driver of the vehicle had suffered major cuts and abrasions in the crash and was given morphine a the scene to ease the pain. The other soldier had only minor abrasions. Dustoff 53 completed the medical evacuation of the two soldiers at 2135 hours and took them to the 27th Surgical Hospital in Chu Lai.

CPT Love, the Binh Son District Senior Advisor, later notified the LZ Dottie Tactical Operations Center that ten Viet Cong soldiers had ambushed the truck on QL1 from several hundred meters away. Before they were able to leave their ambush positions to search the vehicle, however, a Vietnamese man, woman, and child came along and dragged PFC Macklan from the truck to their house. With total disregard for their personal safety, they hid him for the Viet Cong. CPT Love reported that MACV was trying to get the names of the man and woman in hopes that the Americal Division would reciprocate with some kind of reward. Any reward would have to be presented covertly to protect the Vietnamese man and woman from reprisal by the Viet Cong.

I would like to contact anyone knowing of this incident. I can be reached by writing to 150 Las Colinas, Conway, AR, 72032-5579 or by calling [REDACTED]. My email address is [REDACTED]

COL Wayne R. Johnston, (Ret.)



VETERANS OF CO. C 4/31 INFANTRY 1969-70

In 1988 I assisted Tom Lynch in organizing a Reunion of member of Co. D 4/31 Infantry. I had served with Delta Co. from August 1969 until Jan 1970, when I was transferred to Charlie Co. We had a great time, and I planned to organize a Reunion for Co. C. Years slipped by and I never got down to getting things together. Now and again I would see familiar faces in new member section of the ADVA Newsletter. After I started seeing Email addresses, I decided to contact guys I had known. In November of 1998, I got together with our former CO, Captain Darrin in DC. Later that month John Kuruc came to my house over the Thanksgiving weekend. I finally decided it was time to get moving.

To date we have located 30 former member from 69-70. Over Veterans Day weekend in 1999, 14 of us met in Washington, DC. It was beyond my best expectation. We had a small hotel suite we used for our get-togethers. As guys arrived on Friday, one by one, 30 years melted away. Long lost memories were remembered, and we were up until 3:00 A.M.. On Saturday we went to The Wall together. I have been there several times before, but being there with these guys was something special. Many had never been there, and I think it helped that we were altogether for the experience.



Back row: Bob Fici, Mark Colombo, Frank Marriott, Chip Hummel, Glen Priebe. Middle row: Joe Netska, John Willman, Armand Darrin, John Kuruc. Front row: Marty McClellan, Charlie Riverbank, Larry Kowalewski, Rich Diezkonski, Chuck Pulos

Saturday night went on until 4:00 A.M. Sunday morning, and no one wanted to leave. We decided that we will get together every few years. We are planning to attend the Americal Reunion in DC in 2002. We are looking for anyone who served during our tour of duty to join us. If interested contact:

Randall D. Hummel  
Flourtown, PA 19031  
Telephone: [redacted]  
Email: [redacted]

\*\*\*\*\*

HAVE YOU CALLED THAT BUDDY YET?

Dear Editor:

I am a member and have recently retired from the Hillsborough Township Police Dept. During my employment I was in charge of the Police Dept. Evidence Locker. An Americal gold ring, WWII, engraved 32-187-300 M.A.V.D. was located during a recent inventory. I am looking for help in locating the owner.

*Editors note: this information was forwarded to associate member David Myers who checked his WWII records for the service number. He found that he service number belonged to Cpl Milton A. Van Derveer of Hq Btry. 245th Field Artillery Bn. Van Derveer's home of record was in NJ. Myers had been awarded the Bronze Star medal on 16 Feb 1945 while serving with the Americal on Leyte.*

*Myers then did a search on the internet phone book and found a Milton Van Derveer in Neshanic Station, NJ. Myers called the number and found it belonged to the son of the owner of the ring. He is also named Milton A. Van Derveer. the senior Van Derveer passed away in 1983*

Myers also promised to send a copies of records pertaining to Van Derveer's military service. Agans will pursue the return of the ring to the family of Milton A. Derveer.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Editor:

Have you heard of the current assignment of Major General Alan Douglas Johnson? Since June, 2000 he has been the Commanding General, United States Army Japan / Theater Support Command.

Col. Thomas Bediant  
11 th LIB

*Editor's Note: MG Alan Johnson received his commission from OCS in July 1970. From October 1971 through July 1972 he was a Forward Observer, later Assistant Executive Officer, for Btry C, 3/82nd Artillery, 196th L.I.B (Separate).*

*He holds a MBA degree in Business Administration from Adelphi University and a MA degree in National Security and Strategy from the United States Naval War College. He was promoted to Major General on January 1, 2000. His previous assignment was Deputy Commanding General, First Unites States Army (North)/Commanding, General Fort Meade, Maryland. Our thanks to Col. Bediant for sending the biological information on MG Johnson. Our best regards to both MG Johnson and Col. Bediant for their many years of dedicated service to the United States Army.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Editor:

I really enjoyed my first copy of the Americal Newsletter since joining the Americal Division Veterans Association. However, I do wish to make a correction in the unit I served with in Vietnam. I was listed under 'New Members' as having served with the 21 Recon. That is not correct. I served with the 26th Combat Engineers.

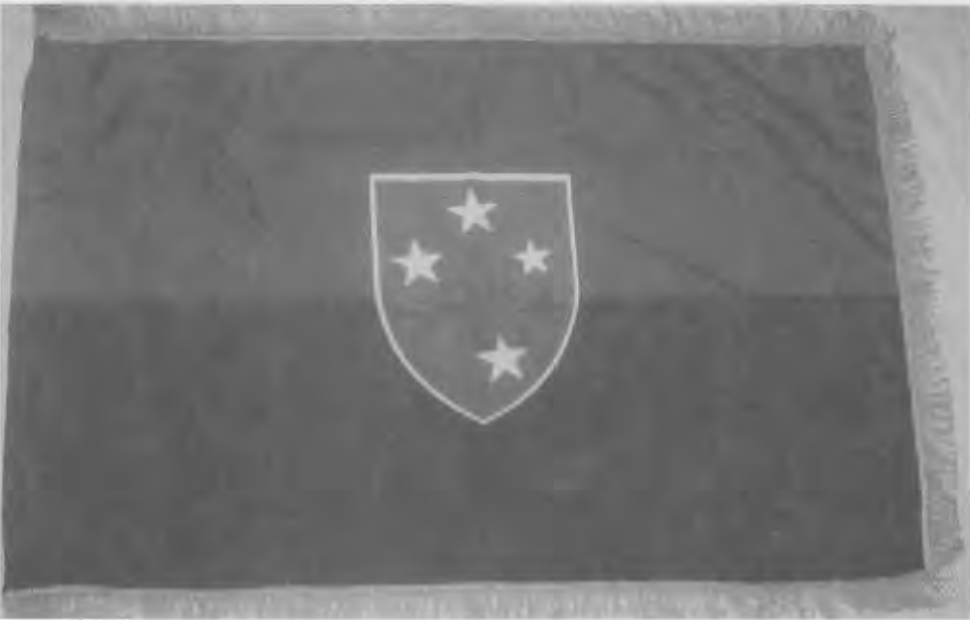
Dennis L. Martzall

*Editor's Note: sorry about that error. It will be corrected in our records and you will again be listed in the Oct-Nov-Dec 2000 issue as a new member with the correct unit*

SPECIAL SALE

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## Eligibility for Membership

Membership in ADVA is open to all officers and enlisted personnel now serving with or who have served with the Americal (23rd Inf) Division in an assigned or attached status during the following periods:

World War II	1942-1945
Korea War (Caribbean)	1954-1956
Vietnam War	1967-1973

Eligibility includes those who served with Task Force 6814 and Task Force Oregon. Branch of Service is immaterial.

## Dedication

ADVA is dedicated as a LIVING MEMORIAL to all veterans of the Americal Division and is pledged to foster true American patriotism, social and welfare activities for all members, allegiance to the United States Government, and its flag, and to perpetuate the traditions and history of the Americal Division of the United States Army.

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**  
**AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION**  
**Bernard C. Chase, National Adjutant**  
[REDACTED]  
**South Yarmouth, MA 02664**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Americal Unit Rgt/Bde \_\_\_\_\_ Bn \_\_\_\_\_ Co \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ Associate \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Service \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Serial/SSN No. \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed DD-214 Y N

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**James C. Buckle**

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