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★ SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

★ VIETNAM



FOUNDED 1945

AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

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

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: JAMES C. BUCKLE
VIETNAM EDITOR: ROLAND T. CASTRONOVA

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1994

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

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



1994 NATIONAL OFFICERS 1995

NATIONAL COMMANDER

William K. Maddox
Portland, TX 78374

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Stephen N. Dennison
Pittsburgh, PA 15227

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Gary L. Noller
4411 Spicewood Springs Road
Austin, TX 78759

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Joseph Chin
Lincoln, MA 01773-0006

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So. Yarmouth, MA 02664

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CHAPTER COMMANDERS

Harold J. Gigli New England Chapter
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Ernest B. Carlson South Mid-West Chapter
Rush J. Proper Great Lakes Chapter
Joe D. Feeler Far West Chapter
Ronald L. Ward Central Mid-West Chapter
Lloyd J. Morrell North-West Chapter

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

AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

James C. Buckle
Harwich, MA 02645

Telephone [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

VIETNAM EDITOR

Roland T. Castranova
[REDACTED]
Peabody, MA 01960

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

MONTHLY A.D.V.A. MEETINGS

January 14, 1995

Headquarters Mass. State Area Command

Camp Curtis Guild, Reading, Mass.
[REDACTED]
10:00 A.M.

February 4, 1995

Headquarters Mass. State Area Command

Camp Curtis Guild, Reading, MA
[REDACTED]
10:00 A.M.

March 11, 1995

Headquarters Mass. State Area Command

Camp Curtis Guild, Reading, MA
[REDACTED]
10:00 A.M.

If you are heading East on 128 (toward Gloucester) get off at Exit 40, go under 128 and take first permissible right turn. You will see the chain link fence on your right and the entrance is about two hundred yards on the right.

If you are heading West on 128, (toward Waltham) take the Main St. exit in Wakefield, Route 129. At the bottom of the ramp take the next right. You will see the chain link fence on the right and the entrance is about two hundred yards on the right.

CONVALESCING

Joseph Alphonso
101 QM
Spring Side Nursing
[REDACTED]

Pittsfield, MA
01201

W. Mark Durley
164 Infantry
[REDACTED]

Sonoma, CA
95476

Raphael P. Parry
33 Infantry M+L Co.
[REDACTED]

Corpus Christi, TX
78414-2728

Harry L. Corliss
125 QM
[REDACTED]

Medford, MA
02155-2156

Peter M. McDonald
182 Infantry
[REDACTED]

Chestnut Hill, MA
02167

Raymond M. Riethmeier
245 FA
[REDACTED]

Rochester, MI
48307

HOW ABOUT A CARD GUYS!

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

Beginning in 1995, due to the rising cost of printing and mailing, and the time necessary to put an interesting issue together, the AMERICAL NEWSLETTER will be published on a quarterly basis.

1995 January - February - March 1995
April - May - June
July - August - September
October - November - December

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

TAPS

Russell R. Bingaman
26 Signal Co.
Boyertown, PA
Date Unknown

Chandler Diehl
Associate
San Antonio, TX
1994

Charles C. Ferrara
182 Infantry C Co.
Boston, MA
March 27, 1994

Walter J. Gaucher
182 Infantry C Co.
Marlborough, MA
April 17, 1994

Arthur J. Huprich
182 Infantry M Co.
Wakefield, MA
October 14, 1994

Arthur H. Krumrey
164 Infantry B Co.
Offerle, KS
October 3, 1994

Marion S. Novinski
125 QM
Chicago, IL
August 30, 1994

Al Porzio
Associate
East Boston, MA
June 15, 1994

Edward J. Sheffield
182 Infantry C Co.
Wakefield, MA
March 21, 1994

Ralph E. Whealan
182 Infantry
Quincy, MA
September 30, 1994

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

REINSTATED

James N. Baird
82 FA 1/82
Rock City Falls, NY

Bill Boyatt
196 LIB B/4/31
Oneida, TN

Neil E. Hannan
196 LIB
Lawrence, MI

Robert E. Cassidy
182 Infantry A Co.
Kingston, NH
Date Unknown 1994

Joseph Drozdal
121 Med. Bn. Band
Hadley, MA
March 8, 1994

Paul J. Fortunato
21 Med. Bn.
Medford, MA
October 21, 1994

Edwin Heartquist
182 Infantry
Tarpon Springs, FL
October 4, 1994

Arthur W. Johnson
182 Infantry A-T
Greenville, NH
April 1994

Henry H. Martin
182 Infantry C Co.
Henderson, NV
October 25, 1994

Larry H. Parkins
182 Infantry E Co.
Grand Rapids, MI
September 17, 1994

Jack D. Robbins
182 Infantry I Co.
Beaverton, MI
October 10, 1994

Roland A. Trembly
182 Infantry C Co.
Lowell, MA
November 5, 1994

J. Robert Wyman
182 Infantry E Co.
Winchester, MA
September 17, 1994

Alden J. Bell
196 LIB Hq+Hq
Donie, TX
#Malcolm East

Richard Del Rossi
11 LIB 4/21 Inf
Reading, MA

Warren I. Risner
161 Heli Co
Searcy, AR

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Gregory P. Amason
11 LIB 4/3 Inf
Dickinson, TX

Rudolph H. Buchborn
182 Infantry H Co
Ashtabula, OH

Kurt W. McFadden
198 LIB E/1/6 Inf
E. Carson City, NV

James M. Morrell
Associate
Alexandria, VA

Robert W. Ozenchar
125 QM
Livonia, MI

Robert L. Phillips
196 LIB 2/1 Inf
Lancaster, PA

Robert E. Richardson
198 LIB D/1/6 Inf
Swarthmore, PA

Domingo Jr. Vasquez
75 Infantry G Co.
Olympia, WA

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

If you know of a Comrade who is sick or has passed away please notify:

Adj. Bernard C. Chase
South Yarmouth, MA 02664

IMMEDIATELY

NEW MEMBERS

Stanley M. Alder
56 Arty 6/56
Waukegan, IL
#R. Castranova

Gregory P. Amason
11 LIB 4/3 Inf
Dickinson, TX
#Memb. Com.

Jeffrey W. Baden
11 LIB 4/3 Inf
Knoxville, TN
#R. Castranova

Larry Barnett
11 LIB F.A.
Fritch, TX
#Malcolm East

Frank L. Bechtold
1 Cav 1 Sqd A Troop
Maricha, OH
#Sam Hyman

Paul F. Bleatings
20 Infantry L/1/20
Marshfield, WI
#Bernie Chase

Richard Allen
26 Eng B Co.
Lewiston, MI
#Memb. Com.

Edward E. Arndt Jr.
198 LIB 5/46 Inf
Franklin, TN
#Lee R. Gunton

Gary Barnes
11 LIB 3/1 Inf
Asheville, NC
#William Connolly

Maurice L.
196 LIB 4/31 Inf
East Hartford, CT
#R. Castranova

Eli Blanton
1 Cav Troop B
Boulder Creek, CA
#Fred Cowburn

Arthur E. Boessneck
721 Ord 22 Ord
North Olmsted, OH
#Bernie Chase

1931N6 45414

NEW MEMBERS

Noe F. Boillard Jr.
23 S+T Bn A Co.
Schenectady, NY
#Bernie Chase

John H. Camerota
123 Avn Bn B Co.
Stillwater, NY
#Les Hines

Greg Chave
198 LIB C/1/6 Inf
Apple Creek, OH
Bernie Chase

Kenneth A. Churchill
26 Eng 3/1 Inf
Middleboro, MA
#Bernie Chase

William J. Coursey
182 Infantry I Co
Hypoluxo, FL
#R. Castronova

Lauretta Crowhurst
Associate
Santa Rosa, CA
#Joe D. Feeler

Gordon L. Daily
Amer Div Hdq
Prescott, AZ
#Clifton E. Burleigh

Howard C. Davis
132 Infantry B Co.
Ruston, LA
#R. Castronova

Terry A. Dermott
198 LIB 5/46 Inf
Archer, FL
#Memb. Com.

Walter E. Divelbiss
164 Infantry
Fort London, PA
#R. Castronova

James D. Dresser
46 Infantry D/5/46
Lillington, NC
#Bernie Chase

Ronald J. Fatato
23 Infantry Div
Irvington, NY
#R. Castronova

Carl R. Gold
Associate
Baltimore, MD
#William Gold

Frederick Goldsmith
164 Infantry Hdq.
Syosset, L.I. NY
#Paul Kelly

John H. Grubbs
26 Eng A & HHC
West Point, NY
#Gen. Fred Kroesen

Arthur L. Hanley
Amer Hdq HHC G-2-TMF
Brewster, NY
#R. Castronova

Norman F. Boxley
198 LIB A/1/6 Inf
Pasadena, CA
#Gerald O'Connor

Carl H. Catske
132 Infantry D Co.
Salinas, CA
#Memb. Com.

Garland L. Childrey
39 M.P. Platoon
Grayson, GA
#Elmer Matola

Natvidad Corona Jr.
14 C.A.B. Hdq Co.
Pasadena, TX
#R. Castronova

David L. Coursin
8 Cav R Troop
Madisonville, TN
#Memb. Com.

Michael T.
123 Avn Bn B Co.
Columbia, SC
#Memb. Com.

Dennis Daniels
17 Cav F Troop
N. Tonawanda, NY
#Robert P. Fuller

Mark L. Deam
&198 LIB C/1/6 Inf
Sidney, OH
#Bernie Chase

Jerry D. Dickerson
26 Eng A Co.
Richlands, VA
#Maurice Henson

Robert Doonaw
196 LIB 1/46 Inf
Mechanicsburg, PA
#R. Castronova

William J. Evans
132 Infantry Reg Hdq
Evergreen Park, IL
#R. Castronova

Dewey J. Garceau
164 Infantry M Co.
Grand Forks, ND
#Memb. Com.

Debby Gold
Associate
Philadelphia, PA
#William Gold

Wallace Grivois Jr.
23 STT Bn B Co.
Grand Isle, ME
#R. Castronova

Michael H. Hagen
198 LIB A/1/52 Inf
New City, NY
#R. Castronova

James J. Hanley
Air Cav D Troop
Citrus Heights, CA
#R. Castronova

Thomas L. Hanson
196 LIB Sig Co
Apple Valley, MN
#John L. Graham

George F. Jones
198 LIB 5/46 Inf
Lake Placid, NY
#Reid McQuinn

Joseph G. LaFare
196 LIB A/3/21 Inf
St. Clair Shores, MI
#Ed Marsh

Leroy V. Lefever
26 Sig Co
Lancaster, PA
#Memb. Com.

Sidney L. Liming
198 LIB
Circleville, OH
#Memb. Com.

James B. Lynch
31 Inf C/3/82 Art
Carteret, NJ
#R. Castronova

William P. Maack
75 Rangers
Queens, NY
#R. Castronova

Joseph J. Marente
23 M.P.
New Milford, NJ
#Dutch Degroot

Greg McCarthy
123 Avn Bn B Co.
Oceanside, NY
#Les Hines

Dennis M. McGuire
196 LIB B/2/1 Inf
Seattle, WA
#James W. Gale

Peter R. Moore
196 LIB E/3/21 Inf
Hamden, CT
#R. Castronova

Walter J. Motyl
132 Infantry E Co.
Lincolnwood, IL
#R. Castronova

Ralph E. Newman Sr.
196 LIB Hdq/1/1 Cav
Greenburg, IN
#Ernie Carlson

Richard S. Pina
20 Infantry B/1/20
San Antonio, TX
#Bill Maddox

Jamo C. Powell
23 Div Hdq
Sarasota, FL
#R. Castronova

Ernesto R. Rangel
196 LIB E/4/31 Inf
Corpus Christi, TX
#Bill Maddox

Ronald D. Hopper
11 LIB 1/20 Inf
Delaware, OH
#Memb. Com.

Ernest J. Jubett
182 Infantry F Co.
Harwich, MA
#Jim Buckle

Dale G. Lampton
245 F.A. Hdq Btry
Point Richmond, CA
#Bernie Chase

Henry E. Lewey
246 F.A. Ser. Btry
Apex, NC
#R. Castronova

Melvyn E. Lucas Jr.
198 LIB
Sacto, CA
#Bernie Chase

William M. Lyons
182 Infantry Hdq/2
Bradenton, FL
#Hugh Murnaghan

Donald H. Mannion
82 F.A. 1/82 Div G3
Kennewick, WA
#Bernie Chase

Evelyn J. Massagli
Associate
Eureka, CA
#Lewis C. Turner

Kurt W. McFadden
198 LIB E/1/6 Inf
E. Carson City, NV
#Bernie Chase

Michael J. McNelis
198 LIB B/1/52 Inf
Tyrone, PA
#Memb. Com.

James M. Morrell
Associate
Alexandria, VA
Lloyd Morrell

Darrell E. Nelson
56 Arty
Clear Springs, MD
#Memb. Com.

Richard Parry
20 Infantry 1/20
Holly Hill, FL
#Dutch Degroot

Douglas L. Porter
123 Avn Bn
Copperas Cove, TX
#Memb. Com.

Derek Price
11 LIB C/4/21 Inf
Mansfield, MA
#Bob Kapp

Hector A. Reith
Amer Hdq HHC G-2
Lackawanna, NY
#R. Castronova

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

NEW MEMBERS

Max E. Reynolds
246 F.A. C Btry
Pinckney, MI
#Jack Teeple

Phillip U. Savage
245 F.A.
Atlanta, GA
#Jon R. Craig

Gerald Sellers
Associate 182 Inf
Millis, MA
#Jim Buckle

Tony Stuckel
198 LIB 1/6 Inf
Corpus Christi, TX
#Bill Maddox

Gerald R. Taylor
21 Infantry 4/21
Morton, IL
#R. Castronova

Dan A. Van Groningen
198 LIB
Marteca, CA
#Bernie Chase

Roger Verschueren
Associate
1930 Brasschaat
#John DeGroot

William G. Walls
11 LIB A/4/21 Inf
Paw Paw, WV
#Bart Berry

Joseph Webb
182 Infantry M Co
Florence, SC
#Robert Hock

Kenneth L. Wilhite
23 Americal Div
Henderson, TX
#Memb. Com.

David M. Wilson
11 LIB B/4/3 Inf
Bellflower, CA
#Leroy Tecube

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION
At a meeting of the Cape Cod Chapter it was voted by the members present to change the name of the Cape Cod Chapter to the New England Chapter. At this same meeting it was also voted to elect Harold J. Gigli as the new Regional Commander.

This Chapter, which will be known as the "William F. McGoldrick - New England Chapter," and will encompass the six New England States. A campaign will get under way shortly to recruit members throughout New England.

For further information see the the article under Chapter News.

CHANDLER DIEHL

Chandler Diehl was the husband of Mrs. Julia (Patch) Diehl. Mrs. Diehl is the daughter of the late Major General Alexander M. Patch Jr., first Commanding General of the Americal Division.

MARION S. NOVINSKI 125 QUARTERMASTER

My beloved husband, of fifty one years, Marion S. Novinski, passed away on August 30, 1994. He suffered for three months from lung cancer.

Fortunately his suffering was eased by phone calls from Army buddies, among whom were Clyde Smith and Paul Santogenis, who called two days before his death.

Marion enjoyed many reunions during his membership in the Americal Division Association as well as camaraderie with his friends, which helped to fulfill his life.

Sincerely,
Josephine Novinski

ARTHUR H. KRUMREY B COMPANY 164 INFANTRY

I regret to inform you of the death of one of your comrades-in-arms. My uncle, Arthur H. Krumrey of Offerle, KS, died of heart failure on October 3, 1994, at the age of 76. He was a wheat farmer.

He was drafted and entered active duty with the United States Army on February 10, 1941. He was discharged with the rank of T-5 on August 25, 1945. In between he served with Company B, 164 Infantry, Americal Division. He landed with the 164th on Guadalcanal on October 13, 1942, and left there in early March 1943. He also participated in, among other campaigns, Bougainville and the Philippines. He was a combat infantryman, and I believe a "charter member" of your division.

My uncle was extremely proud of his service, his comrades and what they accomplished. Yet it was a quiet pride. It was only when I was about to enter the Marine Corps in the early 70's that he shared his war experiences with me. It was clear that he was using his combat experience to try to talk me out of going into the infantry. I was finally convinced and entered the combat engineers instead. I soon found out I was basically a grunt with explosives. He never said anything to me about my choice but must have wisely shaken his head.

I have gathered all his military memorabilia (he kept his discharge uniform, complete with the Combat Infantry Badge, hanging in a garment bag in the closet). I am keeping it with my deceased father's (WWII PBY pilot) and my own. I will see that our family will not ever forget the sacrifices out members of the armed forces have made for America.

Sincerely,
Lawton M. Nuss

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

SICK CALL

132 INFANTRY 198 LIB 1 INFANTRY
 Donald G. Ellshoff Tony Stuckel
 Tulsa, OK 74146-1443 Corpus Christi, TX 78462

HEY GUYS! HOW ABOUT A CARD?

NATIONAL CEMETERY - BOURNE MASSACHUSETTS

A delegation from the Americal Division Veterans Association attended the Veteran's Day services that were held at the National Cemetery in Bourne, Massachusetts on Sunday November 6, 1994

Continuing a tradition, PNC Bernard Chase placed American flags on the graves of Americal Division veterans that are buried here.

The National Cemetery in Bourne, Massachusetts is located on the grounds of Camp Edwards, where many members of the Americal lived and trained during 1941. The 26th (Yankee) Division was Federalized on January 16, 1941 and when Task Force 6814 left New York on January 23, 1942, about a quarter of the Yankee Division was aboard the transports.

FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE

ASSOCIATION PATCH (small)	\$1.00
ASSOCIATION PATCH (large)	3.00
AMERICAL PATCH (dress blue)	1.00
AMERICAL PATCH (field uniform)	1.50
AMERICAL PATCH DECAL	1.50
AMERICAN FLAG PATCH	1.00
AMERICAL CAR PLATE	6.00
AMERICAL PIN SHIELD (large)	2.50
AMERICAL DIVISION CREST	3.00
AMERICAL PATCH DECAL	1.50
DECAL CAR WINDOW	1.00
LAPEL PIN (ASSOCIATION)	2.50
TIE BAR W/SHIELD	5.00
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MINATURE COMBAT MEDIC BADGE (lapel)	2.50
182 INFANTRY LAPEL PIN (MINATURE)	2.50
UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS (Post Paid) (Americal History) (Soft Cover)	12.00
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AMERICAL T-SHIRTS (Viet-Black) M-L	10.00
AMERICAL T-SHIRTS (Viet-Black) EX-XXL	12.00

Send order to: Kenneth Turner

Wakefield, MA 01880
 Or call [REDACTED]

NOTE: Mailing charge will be added to above prices.

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 PASS IT ON TO A NON-MEMBER
 GIVE IT TO A V.A. HOSPITAL
 PUT IT IN THE READING ROOM OF YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

CHAPTERS

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

REGIONAL - Elmer E. Matola - COMMANDER
 Hernando Beach, FL 34442
 Tel. [REDACTED]

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

REGIONAL - Ernest B. Carlson - COMMANDER
 Fredericksburg, TX 78624
 Telephone [REDACTED]

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

REGIONAL - Rush G. Propper - COMMANDER
 Swartz Creek, MI 48473

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

REGIONAL - Joe D. Feeler - COMMANDER
 Albuquerque, NM 87110
 Telephone [REDACTED]

WILLIAM F. MCGOLDRICK-NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER
ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, RI

REGIONAL - Harold J. Gigli - COMMANDER
 Carver, MA 02330-1809

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

REGIONAL - Stephen N. Dennison - COMMANDER
 Pittsburgh, PA 15227
 Telephone [REDACTED]

CENTRAL MID WEST CHAPTER
IA KS MO NE ND SD

REGIONAL - Ronald L. Ward - COMMANDER
 St. Louis, MO 63123

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

REGIONAL - Lloyd J. Morrell - COMMANDER
 Redmond, OR 97756-9612

WILLIAM F. MCGOLDRICK - NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER
ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, RI

COMMANDER Harold J. Gigli
 SEC/TREAS Carlos A. Pola

Carver, MA 02330-1809 Sandwich, MA 02563

At a meeting of the Cape Cod Chapter it was voted by the members present to change the name of the Cape Cod Chapter to the New England Chapter and to recruit members from six New England States.

It was also voted to elect Harold J. Gigli as the new Regional Commander of the New England Chapter and Carlo A. Pola as the Secretary/Treasurer.

For those who are seeking to join this Chapter please send a check for \$5.00, made out to the N.E. Chapter ADVA, to the Commander.

CENTRAL MID-WEST CHAPTER
IA, KS, MO, NE, ND, SD

COMMANDER Ronald L. Ward
 St. Louis, MO 63123

Dave Recob was the spark-plug that made this Chapter hum and we certainly miss his know-how and his dedication to the task of running the Chapter.

NOW--for this Chapter to continue to function as it has in the past, I need some help. If you are willing to be active in this Chapter please write to me and let me know what office you would like to hold. All offices are up for bids but a Secretary is needed as soon as possible.

Would you like to be: COMMANDER
SECRETARY/TREASURER
SGT-AT-ARMS
CHAPLAIN

Please contact me at the above address.

PNC Ronald L. Ward
Commander

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

COMMANDER Elmer E. Matola
 SEC/TREAS George P. Dakin
 Hernando, FL 34442 Deltona, FL 32728
 1-904-746-2096

We, the members of the Arthur R. Wood Chapter wish to express our sympathy to Mrs. Edwin Heartquist upon the loss of her husband. Ed was a Charter Member of the South-East Chapter and it was he who started the Chapter rolling.

Ed served in the 182 Infantry during World War II.

Yours in comradeship,
Commander Elmer Matola

SOUTH MID WEST CHAPTER

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

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

Sergeant-at-Arms - Bruce Mobley
Rev. Perry M. Woerner - Chaplain

We will have a Chapter meeting in February, in Lake Charles, LA. Malcolm East is the coordinator and all members will be notified just as soon as the plans are completed.

Reverend Perry M. Woerner, (22nd Special Services Guadalcanal and Bougainville), has agreed to become the Chapter's Chaplain. He is a new Associate member of both the ADVA and the South Mid-West Chapter.

The Chapter members offer their condolences to Mrs. Julia Patch Diehl, on the passing of her husband, Chandler. Mrs. Diehl is the daughter of General Alexander M. Patch Jr., the first Commanding General of the Americal Division.

Chandler Diehl was a strong supporter of our Chapter. Mrs. Diehl has had a banner made for the Chapter and our plan is to dedicate it to Chandler Diehl.

We are slowly adding new members. Most members have paid their 1994 dues but there are 13 or 14 that have not. We DO NOT wish to drop them but if you do not have an up to date card you may be dropped. We do not want to drop anyone---call me anytime.

Henry F. Howard, of Arlington, TX dropped in on us last month. It's a four hour drive from Arlington to Dickenson where he was headed. If you "Drop-in" to see us in Fredericksburg on the way, it's a nine and a half hour drive.

Henry was in D Company, 182 Infantry with Bruce Mobley and I. He stayed the night in Fredericksburg and after a 6:00 A.M. breakfast the next morning, he was on his way. We had a pleasant three hour visit at my home.

On November 5, 1994 Haney A. Ambrose, of Greenwell Springs, LA, "dropped by"!! He and his wife were visiting her sister and husband in Austin, TX. He and the girls "dropped by" my house. We had thirty minutes for World War II talk--then they had to get back to Austin to pick up her brother at the golf course. It's eighty (80) miles each way from Austin to Fredericksburg!

Ambrose was with E company, 132 Infantry and is trying to locate a Lt. Fred S. Kalinka who served with E Company. He was wounded on a hill, maybe 260, on Bougainville. If you know of him, please give me a call.

To me, this puts a new meaning on the words "Dropped By".

Donald G. Ellshoff, L + B Company, 132 Infantry is at home, as he says, 'mostly in a wheelchair'. I am sure he would like to hear from anyone.

One again we have entered a float in the Kerrville, Texas Holiday Parade. Last year we took two ribbons.

Continues Next Page

CHAPTER NEWS

South Mid West Chapter News Continues

We of my family, and the Chapter, wish to express our hopes for a great Holiday Season, and our prayers go out to everyone who is ill and especially to those who have lost a loved one.

Everyone--HUG SOMEBODY--and just "Drop By" to spend a few minutes with an "Old Buddy"

God Bless,
Ernie Carlson
Commander

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

Regional Commander Sec/Treas
Joe D. Feeler Gino Massagli

Albuquerque, NM 87110 Eureka, CA 95501

Vice Commander: John Bowley
Sergeant-at-Arms Ernest Rodriguez
Chaplain Herbert A. Holt

The Chapter Reunion was held August 15-17, 1994 at the Riverside Resort at Laughlin, NV. It seemed everything went well. The only complaint I heard was about the terrible heat.

Plans are under way for the 1995 Reunion. Lewis C. Turner is the Reunion Chairman and he will be assisted by Pat Tognoli. As soon as plans are finalized they will put into the Americal Newsletter.

I plan to get notices out in plenty of time to all the Chapters concerning the Reunion so if they have any members who would like to see old friends and make new acquaintances, they will have plenty of lead time to make plans to attend. Maybe we can have a much larger turnout next year.

The following Officers will serve for 1995/96:

Joe D. Feeler - Regional Commander
John Bowley - Vice Commander
Gino Massagli - Secretary/Treasurer
Ernest Rodriguez - Sgt-at-Arms
Herbert Holt - Chaplain

We now have 174 members. Let us all try to sign up a new member for both the ADVA and the Far West Chapter. With all the eligible members out there we should have many more members at both the National and the Chapter levels.

Joe D. Feeler
Commander

If you have any memorabilia from the WW II or the Vietnam era, this includes patches, money, coins, pictures (please write on the back in pencil, (names, dates, locations) that you would like to donate to the new Americal Museum in Worcester, MA please contact me;

PNC Roland t. Castranova

Peabody, MA 01960

AMERICAL SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

Mr. and Mrs. Mervin E. Durgin
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth L. Wilhite
Wallace Grivois

In Memory of Dr. John Belmonte
Robert C. Muehrcke M.D.

In Memory of Tony Volpendesto
Robert C. Muehrcke M.D.

In Memory of Paul G. Donelon
Mr. and Mrs. Carlo A. Pola

In Memory of Elizabeth McCormick
William E. McCormick

BOOK REVIEWS

TWO-DOLLAR BILL

The memories of a rifle platoon leader in Vietnam. This book delivers all the tragedy, frustrations and hilarity of life among the Grunts in 1969-70. This was as it was—not as Hollywood tried to portray it. No one is spared in this 249 page book, including the author.

To order send \$9.50 plus \$2.50 for shipping and handling. (Georgia residents add 5% sales tax) to;

Roger Soiset

Lilburn, GA 30247-4580

THE GENERAL

MacArthur and the Man He Called 'Doc'
by Roger Olaf Edgeberg M.D.

Many stories have been written about General MacArthur, mostly by historians and professional writer. He has been widely praised and many times maligned. This book is written by the man that was the General's personal physician during the war. This book shows the human side of this famous man and should be read by every supporter and detractor of General MacArthur.

THE BATTLE OF COFFIN CORNER
Brig. Gen. John E. Stannard

Reviewed by Ivan Musicant, ex-Marine, recipient of the Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval literature—"The story of ordinary men...citizens soldiers of the 164th Infantry, North Dakota National Guard...Told by a sergeant who retired a Brigadier General. It is a jeweled little epic of forgotten heroes, who together with the more famous 1st Marine Division, turned back the tide of Japanese aggression in the South Pacific on Guadalcanal.

His description of the battle and the analysis of tactics go far to illuminate the reasons for the American victory...Coffin Corner takes a well-deserved place on any military book shelf".

Send \$20.00 to;

Ms. Llewellyn Stannard

Gallatin, TN 37066

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

11 LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE - 1 INFANTRY

We were working about 30 clicks West of Quang Ngai in the steeper mountains out there. We had set up in our night logger and as darkness set in our platoon observed hundreds of lights moving in column down a mountain range further west of our position and by all indications the movement was taking place in Laos. I called in what we observed to higher command. We were told to make sure that we were dug in and to keep our heads down as there would be a bombing mission on the opposite mountain ridge within the hour. We went about our task of digging in even deeper than we were and awaited the coming bomb raid. I expected to hear the planes come on station and prepare themselves for their bombing mission. I was totally unprepared for the sudden concussion and brilliant light show that accompanied it. It was my introduction to a B-52 arc-light. Our platoon was easily (1.5-2) clicks away as the crow flies and as I mentioned on an opposite mountain top, none the less our night logger trembled as if it were our mountain peak that was being bombed. The concussion blew dust over our position and the wind that accompanied it was awesome. It was like being in the middle of a dust storm. The ensuing silence was eerie to say the least. I assumed that we would be asked to patrol the area and give higher command a bomb assessment, but instead we were ordered to patrol to the east the next morning. I always believed the reason was that at that time we were not suppose to be conducting any missions in Laos. But as most of us know that was not the case, the only ones that were not aware of our presence in Laos was the American public. I can only imagine what damage that bombing mission did to the NVA enemy on that ridgeline. I knew the mission was coming but the reality of its awesome destruction and power can not be related in words. No matter how I try to explain that event my words do not do it justice. It sort of takes your breath away, leaves you speechless, and plain scares the hell right out of you. I can't imagine what those troops on the receiving end went through but I am willing to bet that most of them were evaporated into a fine mist.

SAM GRASHIO
C/3/1 11th 8/70-7/71

CIVIL AFFAIRS 2/1 INFANTRY

Although I spent most nights on the hill (Ross, Baldy, Hawk Hill), I spent most of my days with the people in the villages and hamlets. I met with their leaders, teachers and kids. I tried to identify their needs and wants, generally trying to fulfill their needs while satisfying their wants. Most of the aid was material, financial or organizational. The material was what ever I could scrounge off the hill. As the official money-changer for the battalion, I made some profit that went into financial aid for the local people. I made one trip to Danang via jeep, hooking onto a convoy. I bought a trailer load of school books on the local economy there and brought them back to "my schools". These schools were built with the assistance of material I scrounged. The VC acknowledged my success a couple of times by firing RPGs into them at night. I guess I bugged them. Also paid workers a dollar a day to build roads. The workers also got one C ration meal for lunch. I watched them eat them so none ended up in the wrong hands. I worked with local officials to improve their general condition including beefing up their defenses by supplying material such as concertina.

One time they needed a market place and wanted a church. We built a market place and they used it for a church. (We weren't allowed to build religious facilities, you know, separation of church and state.) Funny thing was, outsiders always said my market place looked awfully like a church.

Ammo cases were favorite construction materials. Half the window shutters in town outside Hawkhill were labeled 81mm HE or 105mm WP, etc.

We also conducted at least one Medcap a week. We showed PsyOps movies. We worked with the Catholic and Protestant orphanages, brought the kids toys and mostly food. They are probably still eating some of the dehydrated potatoes I got for them. The mess sergeants got to be my best friends on the hill. They always had something for the kids.

I have always been thankful I was given the opportunity to do something constructive during my tour. In contrast to what most experienced, I found my stay there to be meaningful to me if not for the masses in the long run. I hope your experiences were equally positive. Please give any more details you have as I am having difficulty finding out what anyone else in S-5 was doing.

SPENCER BABA
Civil Affairs
2/1ST 12/68-69

YOU WANT ME TO DO WHAT??
(More recollections of a young Engineer)

I should have known I was in trouble shortly after I arrived in Charlie Company when one of the first things they did was issue me two new sets of dog tags. The way Top explained it to me was that if you put one in each boot and one in your wallet besides the one around your neck, then they would still be able to identify you if you got blown to bits. I found out later that they weren't kidding. That was nothing compared to their next surprise. (Regular bundles of joy, they were). Since I had been TDY driving a five-ton dump prior to my reassignment they told me I would be driving one of the back-up trucks. Naive young recruit that I was, I took that to mean that if the first truck couldn't make it then I would bring mine. WRONG!!! What it really meant was that the truck was filled with dirt and hardened with sandbags and would be driven backwards behind the minesweep team as a pressure test. (That part I understood). If the sweep team missed a mine then it would be my turn to try and find it. The hard way! You're kidding, right? They weren't kidding and it was major tension time my first day out. My rectal cavity was shut so tight that you couldn't have driven a toothpick up it with a 14 pound sledgehammer. I mean is it just me or is this the craziness thing you ever heard of? The real craziness, though, was that after a month of this I actually thought nothing of it at all, and actually preferred it to swinging a mine detector. Hell, I preferred ANYTHING to swinging a mine detector. Those things were invented by the Spanish Inquisition. So there it was. Didn't mean nothin'. Something that in civilized society (Even in N.J.) would be considered strange, dangerous and even suicidal, was a commonplace occurrence out on the road or in the bush. Never ceases to amaze me the things that people can get used to, even today. Just a few more recollections from a once young lad.

Peace, Big Ed.
JAMES EDDINGTON
C/39 ENG 4/69-3/70

REUNIONS

1995 ADVA NATIONAL REUNION COMMITTEE

Meet your '95 Committee (same group that ran the 1990 ADVA National Reunion):

John C. Micek - Chairman	132 Infantry
Mitchell Przybycien - Asst. Chair	132 Infantry
John "Dutch" DeGroot	23 M.P. Co.
Brian Mulcrone	23 M.P. Co.
Dr. Robert C. Muehrcke	132 Infantry
Fred G. Hitzman	132 Infantry
John Gentile	57 Engineers

The '95 Reunion runs from Thurs. 6/22/95 to Sun. 6/24/95 in the Marriott Hotel, Oak Brook, Illinois

Thurs. 6/22/95 - Registration starts at noon. Hospitality Room open from noon to 11:00 P.M. Entertainment at 8:30 P.M. Bar prices very LOW.

Fri. 6/23/95 - Early golf for those interested. Various bus tours available, i.e., a Chicago tour; a river boat casino gambling tour; a tour of the world famous "Catigny War Memorial"; an evening musical at the Drury Lane Playhouse. Hospitality Room open from noon to 11:00 P.M. Entertainment at 8:30 P.M.

Sat 6/24/95 - General Membership meeting starting at 9:00 A.M.. A combined luncheon (ladies & gentlemen) at noon. Memorial Service at 2:00 P.M. in luncheon area. Hospitality Room open from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Banquet cocktails 6:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. (2 free drinks per dinner ticket)

Dinner/speeches 7:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

Dancing/Socializing 9:30 P.M. to 12:30 A.M. Hospitality room open from 9:00 P.M. to MIDNIGHT.

Sun. 6/25/95 Farewell breakfast 7:00 - 11:00 A.M.

WATCH YOUR MAIL - - YOU WILL BE RECEIVING A HOTEL RESERVATION AND REUNION REGISTRATION FORM ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF JANUARY 1995. RESPOND IMMEDIATELY!

See you all in Oak Brook, Illinois!

Joseph G. Micek
'95 ADVA Reunion Chairman

BLACKHAWK ASSOCIATION



BLACKHAWK ASSOCIATION
7th Squadron - 1st Cavalry Regiment
Fort Knox - Vinh Long RVN

The 7th Squadron 1st Cavalry Regiment "Blackhawks" Vinh Long VNH 68-72 and all attached units--Troop D 3rd Squadron 5th Cavalry--Troop C 3rd Squadron 17th Cavalry--Troop C 16th Cavalry--and 370th, 371st, 372nd Transportation Detachments.

1995 Reunion to be held at the Drawbridge Estate, Northern Kentucky, AUGUST 10-13, 1994. Contact:

Michael J. O'Reilly

Cold Spring, NY 10516-2702
914-265-2814

REUNIONS

KHAM DUC REUNION

This Reunion will be hosted by Alpha Company 1/46 Infantry Alumni Group in conjunction with our 6th Reunion July 21, 22, 23, 1995 at the Holiday Inn Beachside Resort Hotel in Key West, Florida. This Reunion is for all branches that fought in the battle at Kham Duc in May 1968 and for anyone else who cares to attend. To receive Reunion information please contact:

Fred Cowburn

Camillus, NY 13031

Bill Schneider

Barnhart, MO 63012

WINTERFEST R & R VETERANS RALLY 1995

New Glarus, Wisconsin
January 13, 14, 15, 1995

New Glarus is a Swiss community of 1800 and is known for its year round festivals and hospitality. All veterans, individuals or organization, of any branch of the service, are welcome. Some years it is warm but last year was the coldest, with plenty of snow---so---dress accordingly.

For information call [REDACTED]

REUNIONS 1995

Jan. 13-15 Winterfest Vietnam Vet Rally
New Glarus, WI Call Ron Lewis [REDACTED]

Apr 21-23 8th Annual FL Vietnam Vets Reunion
Melbourne, FL Call Gary Smith [REDACTED]

May 6 WI Vietnam Veterans 2nd Convention
Madison, WI Call Jim [REDACTED]

June 2-4 West VA 2nd Annual Vets Reunion
Hurricane, West Virginia Bill [REDACTED]

June 9-11 Firebase Indy VI
Marion County Fairgrounds [REDACTED]

June 10 Tri-Co Vietnam Vets Reunion
American Legion Park [REDACTED]

June 17 WY Vietnam Veterans Reunion
Casper Hilton, WY [REDACTED]

June 22-25 Americal Division Veterans Vets
Oak Brook, IL [REDACTED]

June 21-23 Kham Duc Reunion
Key West, Florida Fred Cowburn [REDACTED]

June 23-25 Hotel Co. 2nd Battalion 7th Marines
Buffalo, NY [REDACTED]

June 23-25 4th Annual Firebase Freedom Vets
Climax, MO Joe Jacobs [REDACTED]

July 15 Canadian Viet Vets Memorial Dedication
Lee Hitchens [REDACTED] Etobicoke
Ontario, Canada M9A 4X2

Aug 10-12 7th Armored Sq, 1st Air Cav Blackhawk
Covington, KY Mike Reilly [REDACTED]

TO: "FLOWER CHILDREN"
I WILL RECALL HIEPDUC

Here's what was happening 25 years ago this week in Vietnam:

"Widespread attacks by Communist forces, which began Aug. 11 are believed to be the start of a new enemy offensive".

"Allied authorities estimated that about 200 U.S. troops were killed Aug. 11-19 in the upsurge of fighting."

"(In one battle) American troops came upon a force of 1,200 North Vietnamese troops ready to attack a refugee camp at Hiepduc. Savage fighting rages in the sector. Sixteen Americans were killed and 66 wounded. Two companies of the Americal Division's 196 Light Infantry Brigade sustained 40 per cent casualties in the fighting".

Meanwhile, back in the USA:

"The Woodstock Music and Art Fair, a rock and roll music festival described as 'An Aquarian Exposition' Aug. 15-17, drew 400,000 young people to Bethel, NY in the Catskill Mountains, creating massive traffic jams and shortages of food, water, and medical and sanitary facilities".

"There were 80 arrests on drug charges involving LSD and heroin. Marijuana smokers, estimated to be the majority of the audience were not arrested".

My fellow Americans, If you want to know what is wrong with this country...If you want to understand what a bunch of sick puppies we have become...If you're looking for a perfect example of how political correctness can produce dry heaves in the strongest stomach...Turn on the TV, listen to the radio or read a national, state or local publication this weekend and see which group of Americans is remembered:

1. The young people who fought and in some cases died--to defend the Hiepduc refugee camp.

2. The "flower children" who were at Woodstock, boogieing, smoking dope, popping pills and sticking needles in their arms.

The "Woodstock Nation" is being celebrated across the country, and no publication has done a more thorough job of remembering it than Newsweek.

The Aug. 8 issue featured a 10 page cover story, "Woodstock - The Way We Were: How It Looks From Middle Age."

Newsweek editors included a where-are-they-now page to tell what happened to the 27 groups and individual who performed at Woodstock.

At least six of the performers have died of drug-related causes. Several others have served prison terms.

They will be honored by the Woodstock faithful this weekend. (Newsweek noted that Jim Hendrix, is considered "a martyr.")

Unfortunately, I can't tell south Texans the names of the 16 Americans who were killed near Hiepduc and who never enjoyed middle age.

Neither Newsweek editors nor any other members of the media bothered to make a call to the Pentagon to find this information.

I can say with certainty however that some mother, father, widow, or daughter honors each soldier and will be remembering him on the anniversary of his death.

History has not been - and probably never will be - kind to the muddle headed politicians who led America into the morass of Southeast Asia. If those of us who watched loved ones board planes to go to the killing fields, knew then, and can say with no hesitation now, that they were made of finer stock than the "Aquarians" who flock to Woodstock.

At the Stinson house this weekend we will honor those unheralded martyrs.

I hope you will do the same.

Ed Note: This column appeared in the San Antonio Express News on August 14, 1994 and was written by columnist Roddy Stinson.

Ernie Carlson, Commandeer of the South Mid-West Chapter sent the article to the Newsletter and he included this note: "I am trying to locate the names of the 15 men killed August 11, 19, 1969 I have been told that the Americal company involved was C Company, 2nd Battalion, 196 LIB.

Please let me know if you have any information on this battle". Send info to:

Ernest Carlson

Fredericksburg, TX 78624
Tel. [REDACTED]

F/8 CAVALRY 123 AVIATION BATTALLION
CHU LAI

I saw your note from "Doc" Kralich seeking information on 6 medical personnel killed in a rocket attack on a dispensary 11/30/70. One of the KIA was a friend, Cpl Benjamin Nelson, medic for F/8. I recently had some communication with Ed Klosterman regarding this same incident. Nelson had recently returned from a leave in Europe which he had received for reupping. He just happened to be visiting the dispensary at the time of the rocket attack. I remember the attack, not as friendly fire, but VC 122 rockets. Anyway, I dug out an article about the attack which made the front page of the "Times Herald" of Norristown, PA which, since it is short, I will share with you.

This was from 12/1/70: "An enemy rocket wrecked an American medical station in South Vietnam Monday killing or wounding the entire staff. The medical dispensary was smashed during a 20-round rocket barrage on the Chu Lai camp, headquarters of the U.S. Americal Division 50 miles south of Da Nang. It was the first rocket or mortar attack on Chu Lai since June 19. Field reports said one of the 100 pound missiles tore through the roof of the first aid station at 4:00 p.m. The reports said there were no patients in the dispensary, but less than a dozen Americans on the staff were killed or wounded. The U.S. Command's security regulations prohibit disclosing specific casualty figures in such attacks."

Thought this may be of interest.
F/8 CAV 123RD AVN 4/70 4/71
John Boyer

523 SIGNAL BATTALION
GRUNTS AND REMF'S

With all of the remarks being bantered about, I couldn't help but put in my two cents worth. Being that I was not a Grunt and I was for the first three months a Remf, I feel that a lot of this talk isn't pointed at me for my three months as a Remf.

First of all I want to say that I had the utmost respect for the grunts, (regardless of which of you were grunts, I don't want to score points - just make one) as did all of the guys that I was stationed with in the 523rd Signal Battalion. It may have been because, even though we aren't out in the bush at all times, we did get onto the radio nets that the bush was on. We heard many of the battle cries over the radio, for air support, for medivac, for fire power from the LZ's and the Ocean Liners in the Gulf of Tonkin.

I could see where a dummy could exist in a PX, because there is no way of knowing anything else except the work at the PX. I don't remember ever being asked to wear proper attire, and even when I was in the rear I was roughy. We partied till the cows came home and didn't give a damn about what anyone thought of our decorum. There was a time that I personally let my beard begin to grow. (Of course the beard of an 18 yr old). It appeared the career soldiers cared more about what the one tripper was doing wrong, because that was their way of getting in line for advancement.

So just to clear the air, as far as this part time Remf is concerned, I had the most respect for those boonie boys long before I got to go out there and serve with them. I have to say though, at times I was uncomfortable around a lot of the grunts because of the uncontrolled times when they got the chance to party. But the guys that I was stationed with that pulled perimeter at LZ 411, were a great bunch of guys. I hung out in the command tower at the top of the hill. I wish I could remember some of their names. Nothing seems to ring a bell.

Appreciating the ground pounders,
Larry Ginsberg 523 Sig Bn 70-71

PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD

REGISTRY OF AMERICAN VETS

A new organization has been formed in California designed to help VETERANS and current members of the armed forces to locate friends they have served with. The name of the organization is REGISTRY OF AMERICAN VETERANS. It is a private data base of American Veterans and military personnel in the US.

There is no charge for submitting your name and information in order to be listed. However, to join the registry to obtain information on someone else there is a membership fee. The fee is \$15.00 for a FIVE year membership. A lifetime membership is \$25.00.

For info write:

Registry of American Veterans
[REDACTED] 8
Riverside, CA 92517

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

VIETNAM-STYLE!

By SP4 JOHN W. HEATH

Another New Year

Happy 4606! Just as we celebrate the new solar year, the Vietnamese are welcoming the new lunar year during TET (Feb. 17-19), traditionally Vietnam's most festive holiday.

But why do TET new year celebrations begin over a month later than ours? The answer lies in the difference between the lunar (Sino-Vietnamese) calendar and our solar (Gregorian) calendar. Our calendar is based on how long it takes the earth to revolve around the sun--a little more than 365 days. That extra time is balanced out by a leap year every four year.

Measured by the orbit of the moon around the earth (29 1/2 days), the Sino-Vietnamese calendar is made up of 12 lunar months or 355 days, which is adjusted to the solar year of 365 days by adding a 13th month every two or three years.

The lunar calendar also puts an animal label on each year, the coming year being the year of the cock. Each of the years in this twelve year cycle, called Ky, bears a name of an animal of the Chinese zodiac. We have just completed the year of the monkey.

The Vietnamese use the Gregorian calendar on private business and government offices, while the Sino-Japanese calendar covers religious and social life. The lunar calendar began in 2637 B.C., 1969 being the year 4604.

Just as we celebrate the Christmas-New Year Holiday Season with the exchange of gifts, the Vietnamese give small amounts of money to persons of all ages during TET--a much more sobering New Year's tradition.

So if you have broken those resolutions for 1969 already, now is your chance to try again during the lunar new year.

(This article was taken from the "Southern Cross", printed in Vietnam in 1969).

ATTENTION 11 LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE ATTENTION

Mr name is Ruben Ortiz and i was a member of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry, 11 LIB, Americal Division. I would like to obtain any information that is available concerning the 11 Light Infantry Brigade.

I left for Vietnam, from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, with the 11 LIB in 1967. I served with the 20th Infantry in that Brigade from the time it was activated in 1966 until 1969 when I was ETS.

I would appreciate any information about this unit that any one can supply. Please send to:

Ruben Ortiz

[REDACTED]
Tucson, AZ 85735

1ST SQUADRON

1ST CAVALRY
(Armored Cavalry)



Arrived Vietnam: 29 August 1967
Departed Vietnam: 10 May 1972
Previous Station: Fort Hood, TX

Authorized Strength 1968 1970
Squadron 1,027 1,050

The 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry was detached from the 1st Armored Division and sent to Vietnam as a separate armored cavalry squadron attached to the U.S. Army, Pacific (USARPAC). Traditionally, it was part of the "1st Regiment of Dragoons." The squadron consisted of three ground cavalry troops and one air cavalry troop. Troop D, which was deployed in July 1968 and attached to the 101st Airborne division (Airmobile) until 1969, when it rejoined the squadron. Troop D's assets were later used in the reactivation of Troop D, 17th Cavalry when the latter unit was activated in Vietnam on 30 April 1972. Squadron personnel were entitled to wear the shoulder sleeve insignia of the 1st Armored Division.

LOCATION	SERVICE	MAJOR COMMAND
Chu Lai	9/67 - 10/67	T. F. OREGON
Chu Lai	11/67 - 11/68	Americal
Da Nang	12/68 - 1/69	Americal
Da Nang-Tam Ky	2/69 - 9/69	Americal
Chu Lai	11/69 - 3/70	Americal
Chu Lai-Mo Duc	4/70 - 7/70	Americal
Chu Lai-Tam Ky	8/70	Americal
Tam Ky	9/70	Americal
Thach Khe	10/70	Americal
Chu Lai-Tam Ky	11/70 - 3/71	Americal
Chu Lai-Tam Ky	4/71	11 LIB
Tam Ky-Phu Bai	5/71	101 Airborne
Tam Ky	6/71	Americal
Tam Ky-Ai Nghia	7/71 - 11/71	23 ARVN
Tam Ky-Ai Nghia	12/71 - 5/72	196 LIB

DIVISION ARTILLERY

The few times I spent with the Marines, trying to bury my nose into the Vietnam mud, I never heard one of them saying they would not protect my sorry Americal butt. No, it seems they were right happy to have us there. By the time I got in country, doing fire missions with the Marines was not a big problem. I think a little in service rivalry is probably healthy until some wise** takes it serious. I do need to say, my experience with the Marines left me with respect for them and their officers, but no more than with those in the Americal.....

William Wood Jr.

11 LIB HHC 23 MEDICAL

We Nam guys had nothing like Tarwawa or Iwo or any of many WWII actions. As any combat vet knows the big picture is one thing but when your hunkered in a bunker or a hole in the ground that's not deep enough and someone's shooting at you it doesn't make any difference what the H#! the big picture is. I for one, don't think I'd want to change places with you WWII guys. I do wish that the political situation was different about "Our War". Even though no war is a good war, WWII was about as good politically as they come.

Doc Merk 68-69

1 SQUADRON 1 CAVALRY ASSOCIATION REUNION

JUNE 22-23-24-25, 1995

Who's going so far??

Ron Pelkey	D Troop	Chicago, IL
Roger Barney	A Troop	McArthur, OH
Terry Babler	A Troop	New Glarus, WI
Ed Washington	C Troop	Birmingham, AL
William Cantrell	C Troop	Cumberland, WI

C COMPANY 1 BATTALION 52 INFANTRY 198 LIB

My name is Thomas Leroy Sandoz, a former member of D/1/52 Infantry, 198 LIB under the command of Capt. Charles D. Ebert at LZ Bayonet Feb 68-69. I am also PFC Sandoz that took over command of C&A Co 1/52nd when they volunteered to recover bodies and make contact with the NVA, that had wiped out Delta Company. The battle that followed was known as the battle of Banana Hill, where several thousand NVA were killed with the help of a B-52 air strike.

I mention this to help my old Company remember. All this time, the only proof that I have of being in Vietnam is my 214. My Vietnam records were lost or destroyed in the fire at the records in St. Louis.

I have PTSD, a bad liver, contaminated by unknown agents and I suffer from seizures and blackouts since the time I was hit in the head by shrapnel when LZ Bayonet was overrun.

I realize that a lot of us were 'programmed' as part of a new experimental training and were then called "Special Force Rangers", but please try to remember, "I'll guard your back".

If you have any information at all contact me:

Thoams L. Sandoz

[REDACTED]
San Antonio, TX 78225

1/46 INFANTRY LZ PROFESSIONAL 1/46 INFANTRY
196 LIB 198 LIB

I need to contact anyone who was with Delta Company 1/46 Infantry on LZ Professional during May 12 thru 14, 1969 when under attack.

I would like to hear from any Medic that may have been on LZ Professional during these dates. I would like to contact Capt. Allred, Lt. Summer, Capt. Bichon, or SFC Beaudoin or anyone that could help me locate these men.

I need help to verify a injury while securing a bunker in front of the 105 Artillery Pit. Some of my medical records have been lost and I need verification of my injury. Write to:

Danny R. Heller

[REDACTED]
Sturtevant, WI 53177

Thanks to you comrades who have contacted me from Alpha Company 1/46 Infantry.

Danny R. Heller

COMPASS A LIFE SAVER FOR 196 PLATOON LEADER
D/4/31 Infantry

There is an old saying in the Army that "a compass used correctly can save your life."

For a platoon leader from the 196 LIB this old adage took a new direction.

1st Lieut. John Wilson (Boston, MA) was leading his platoon from D Co. 4th Bn., 31st Infantry, in search of an enemy base camp when the unit came under automatic weapons fire from a well bunkered enemy position.

With the help of his compass, Lt. Wilson plotted and directed artillery fire on the enemy position, then fastened his compass to a button hole on his fatigue shirt.

Suddenly a burst of enemy automatic weapons fire hit Lt. Wilson's command post, and they immediately returned fire. When the smoke cleared the lieutenant grabbed for his compass to shoot an azimuth on the enemy bunker.

"I felt a little blood trickling down my chest and saw the glass crystal had been shattered," he said".

"I took the compass off my shirt and discovered an AK-47 bullet in it. It was the closest call I've ever had yet".

"At least I didn't need the compass again that day because the next artillery round was a direct hit on the enemy bunker." (Southern Cross Feb 1969)

SEEKING SHORT STORIES ABOUT THE VIETNAM WAR

I intend to assemble and publish a collection of, true to life non-fiction, short stories about the Viet Nam War. I am particularly interested in those that are bizarre, humorous, or poignant; stories that have an unusual twist as opposed to pure "blood and guts" experiences.

Eye witness or first person accounts are not required; hearsay is acceptable. also, if you are not a prolific writer but can convey your story verbally, a tape recording will suffice.

If you have a story to tell that you feel is worthy of publication and that would be appreciated by the general public, please write and I will send guidelines/terms and discuss specifics.

Bob Michel LtC, USA (Ret)
[REDACTED]
Alexandria, VA 22303
Tel. [REDACTED] FAX [REDACTED]

D COMPANY 3rd BATTALION 21 INFANTRY 196 LIB
1969 - 1970

DO YOU KNOW THIS MAN--I served in Vietnam 69-70 and would like to locate a Lt. John Welton or Whelton. He was originally from New York.

It is very important that I get in touch with him and would like any information you could supply. Please write to:

Daniel Phillips

Eclectic, AL 36024

THE MOVING WALL - JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
25 Sep 94 - 2 Oct 94

The "Wall" was on display for eight days, twenty four hours a day. I can safely say that thousands of people visited the "Wall" as I was a volunteer guide/worker during this time.

On Saturday night at 7:00 P.M. there was a wreath laying ceremony for the Vietnam Veterans. I placed a wreath to honor the Americal Division members that were killed in Vietnam. Below is listed the names nineteen (19) Americal men that were KIA between August and October 1968:

NAME	KIA	HOME STATE
Sgt. Michael Hoban	8-5-68	Washington
Sgt. Richard Tatum	8-6-68	Missouri
Pfc. Karol Clay	8-10-68	Illinois
Pfc. L.W. Christenson	8-12-68	Kansas
S/Sgt. Edward Stewart	8-23-68	Florida
Cpl. Dennis Gunder	8-24-68	Iowa
SP4 Jeffrey Cramer	8-25-68	Ohio
Sgt. William Swoveland	8-25-68	Michigan
S/Sgt. Robert McCormack	8-27-68	Pennsylvania
Cpl. Charles Champion	8-28-68	Texas
Pfc. Robert Coonrod	8-28-68	California
Cpl. Lonnie Laws	9-1-68	North Carolina
Pfc. Robert Pinkard	9-3-68	Texas
S/Sgt. Eugene Tibbs	9-11-68	Maryland
Sgt. Leon Bullock	9-15-68	Florida
Cpl. Johnny Simpson	9-19-68	Georgia
Cpl. Mario Estrada	9-24-68	California
Pfc Jerry Jones	9-30-68	New York
SP5 Ronald Pochran	10-1-68	Wisconsin

The "Moving Wall" is a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC, which lists the names of 58,191 Americans killed in the Vietnam War from 1957-1975.

Anyone that has ever seen the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC will tell you: go see it.

When the plans for it were announced, it was greeted with scorn. How could a "wall" do justice to such a profound national event as the thousands killed in that conflict.

But, even calloused Vietnam veterans have been brought to tears by the grand simplicity of the monument, the naming of those killed in that conflict. (Clarion-Ledger Jackson, MS)

James C. Davis
A/5/46 Inf - Hq. 198 LIB

D COMPANY 3rd BATTALION 21 INFANTRY 196 LIB
1969 - 1970

DO YOU KNOW THIS MAN--I served in Vietnam 69-70 and would like to locate a Lt. John Welton or Whelton. He was originally from New York.

It is very important that I get in touch with him and would like any information you could supply. Please write to:

Daniel Phillips

Eclectic, AL 36024

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER

IT NEEDS YOU!

OFFICERS

Thought I'd enter this foray into the life of the remf from a little different perspective.... That of officer and (I use the term loosely) gentleman. I think Doc hit it more or less on the head... we need a heirarchy of remf or should I say grunt.... First Lrrp, then beanies, then infantry, then armor, artillery and so on.... I think what has really created this division was the relative ease some of the creatures in the rear experienced the war and to a large extent the conflict between an man's need to blow when given a realitively secure environment after some bush time. I can remember being in the PX or anywhere in Chu Lai and watching and experiencing the transition back into garrison life... It would only be natural to see problems occur. And honestly, I think some of the officers contributed with their inability to be flexible and a certain anal retentiveness, that made them actually think they were for some reason better than those they lead. Anyway, the come down created some problems for me and my life over there was much easier than for the average grunt.

If you have faced fear head on and have it as a real and constant companion, it is hard to generate respect for those in the rear or those who look like they have it easier. As for us officers, it takes a long time for some to learn, all it gets you is a lot of responsibility. I can remember coming home and lying awake at nights worrying about my guys, if they were alright, did they take care of each other, did the guy who replaced me do it right.... No, it was not a great gift to be an officer.... When you send one home in a bag you send a part of yourself.....

When my tour was over, I was spent 300 guys in my unit, 12 differnt locations that mean't three hundred wives, girl friends, mother's father's and untold brother's and sister's not to mention their children.... What do you do with a dear John letter, what happens when you have a smack problem, a fragging, a guy in trouble with (yes) the Px.... You take care of them, you fight for them, they were all you have....

William Wood
HQ DIV ARTY 70-71
PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD

178 ASSAULT SUPPORT HELICOPTER COMPANY

We are trying to locate any and all records and information on or about the 178 Assault Support Helicopter Company (ASHC).

The purpose of this search is to write a unit history. So far we have gotten some information and we are looking for Company records so as to write about the unit and its actions during the Vietnam War.

We have contacted many organizations such as the National Archives, Fort Rucker, the Pentagon, Fort Campbell, Fort Sill, the U.S. Army Military Institute, and Carlisle Barracks, to mention a few, and none have any records of the 178th.

Any information you may be able to supply will be most welcome. Contact:

Robert K. Rodweller
[REDACTED]
Silver Spring, MD 20906
Tel. [REDACTED]

NEW ENGLAND SHELTER FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

This letter is to introduce myself to you. My name is Al Bitzer, Kitchen Manager for the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans. The New England Shelter is a project of the Vietnam Veterans Workshop, Inc., a non-profit veterans support and advocacy group based in Boston, MA. Since opening its doors in January of 1990, the shelter has assisted over 4,000 homeless veterans.

As ever we need your help with food donations and supplies in order to feed and maintain our homeless veterans. On an average day we feed more than 500 veterans, and we rely heavily on the generosity of organizations, businesses, and the general public to fulfill our needs. These needs also include cleaning and janitorial supplies as well as kitchen equipment, new or used.

We are part of the Good Samaritan Clause of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 94, Section 328, which allows donations to a non-profit organization and eliminates the possibility of liability. Items that are close to code dates, dented cans, open boxes, perishables, and over-productions. Please rally around the flag to ease our long and hard struggle. Who better to ask than an organization of fellow veterans. This will afford us the opportunity to help a homeless veteran. I know that I personally receive a tremendous amount of gratification through my position here and I will continue my efforts to help our "warriors" experience a better quality of life.

Once again, thank you for your support of the New England shelter for Homeless Veterans. Should you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the number listed above, or stop by to see our, yours, and my operation. Please contact:

Al Bitzer
New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans
[REDACTED]
Boston, MA 02108
Tel. [REDACTED]

Ed Note: This is indeed a worth cause. This organization required the veterans that are living there to either be working, looking for work, or attending school. Richard Del Rossi, a member of the ADVA is associated with this project.

DID YOU SEE THIS?

On June 12, 1994 at 9:00 P.M. EDT on the TBS was a National Geographic Explorer program. The title was, "VIETNAM: The Women Who Served".

In this film there were clips from Americal LZ's and Chu Lai. Larry Young Hines was also shown wearing her Americal patch.

As no doubt you all know, Larry was a Red Cross worker in Vietnam. She states that her local newspaper (Raleigh, NC) is doing a story on her service in Vietnam and promises to send a copy along for the Americal Newsletter.

Ed Note: Sorry I missed the TV show Larry but I had not returned from the Americal Convention in New York. Thanks for writing and I'll be looking for the newspaper clippings.

MURALS BY GOTTSCHALK

We have an artist in our membership that is becoming famous for his murals.

Michael Gottschalk served with the 11 Artillery while in Vietnam. He now makes his home in Michigan.

Below is a Mural that he painted for the Children's Museum in Flint, Michigan.



3rd U.S. INFANTRY - THE OLD GUARD

While on my way to the Convention in New York this past June, I had a chance to visit the Old Guard Museum, 3rd U.S. Infantry, at Fort Myers, VA. I was more than surprised to see the Americal insignia displayed on a large flag hanging on the wall, honoring the 2nd battalion of the 3rd Infantry.

An inquiry to the Curator revealed that the 2nd Battalion of the 3rd Infantry, Old Guard, was assigned to the 198 LIB while in Vietnam.

The Curator is very anxious to have anyone in the ADVA that might have been with the unit in Vietnam to contact him. Write to:

Robert C. Alley Curator
The Old Guard Museum Building 249

Fort Myers, VA 22211-5020

If you are ever in this area you should visit this Museum.

Lloyd Morrell

B COMPANY 4 BATTALION 21 INFANTRY 11 LIB
May 1968 - May 1969

I am 100 % Service Connected Disabled due sorely to my P.T.S.D. One of my major problems is that my squad leader of Bravo Company, who was beside me, was killed when he stepped on a mine while we were on an assault mission. This has become one of my worst nightmares and for years I have blamed myself. I need help desperately.

I only remember that his nick-name was "Munk". He was from Pennsylvania and he was an E-5. He had a long last name and I believe it ended in Ski. He was KIA between July and November 1969.

I would like to learn more about my Squad Leader

so that I can locate his Mom and Dad and give them some pictures that I had taken with Munk while in Vietnam. My doctor has assured me that this will help me heal and help me to begin to forgive myself and come back home in my mind from the jungles of Vietnam. Please send any info to:

Robert Lee Horton

[REDACTED]
Topeka, KS 66614

THINK AMERICA
by
Robert Walls

My dreams at night are filled with tears,
I've had such dreams more than twenty years.

I try to forget those things of the past,
The harder I try, the longer they last.

I awake in the night, my eyes full of tears,
No drugs that they give me can erase these fears

I dream of my buddies, left face-down in the mud,
Their bodies all mangled and covered with blood.

The screams in the night, I know whose they are,
But I can't reach to help them, for they are too far

You people of now, who slept well in your bed,
Think not of the loved ones brought back home dead.

No welcome home did you give the soldiers of Nam,
Like World War II or the war against Sadaam.

You drafted us kids, yet still in our prime,
And sent us to war, to die on the line.

We're back in the Country, but we can't survive
Because the people of here care less we're alive.

With wounds of the flesh, as well as the heart,
We'll stand together united 'til death do us part.

You know if a war ever comes to the States,
Will these veterans be around to protect you from
fate.

Robert Walls
Vietnam Veteran

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

PNC Roland Castranova is now the Editor of the Vietnam News Network.

Vietnam Veterans please send all material for the AMERICAL NEWSLETTER to him. Please put names and dates on the reverse of photographs and they will be returned to you after the Newsletter is printed.

Address all items to:

Roland T. Castranova

[REDACTED]
Peabody, MA 01960

THE STAFF OF THE AMERICAL NEWSLETTER AND THE OFFICERS OF THE AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION WISH YOU ALL THE HAPPIEST OF HOLIDAYS.

D-DAY PLUS 50
A THOUGHT AND A THANK YOU

Today as I watched the D-Day plus 50 celebration on television I happened to look into the eyes of one of the old soldiers from that battle that seems so very long ago. And yet, in his eyes there was still the light and sparkle of a man much younger than his years. He was standing tall and proud as he must have fifty years ago.

I guess that is because in his mind he will always be a soldier. The soldier he was 50 years ago and continues to be today. Even though the war has stripped away his youth forever, somehow, he has and always will remain young.

It is not the young at heart that most people think of, for in time of war and battle the heart tends to grow heavy and dark with the loss of friends and the pain and suffering of war.

Yet in the mind, spirit and soul of a soldier, because of the extraordinary events of terror, triumph, and defeat that are forever imprinted on our consciousness, those that participate are somehow suspended and though youth is lost they remain forever young.

As I watched the soldier a tear rolled down his cheek as the U.S. Army Band played both the French and American national anthems, and, curiously enough I too noticed a tear rolling down my own cheek and my hand was also raised in salute.

I rose from my chair and went to look in the mirror. I saw the hair now gray, the face more lined and yet the eyes, like the old soldier on T.V., were still sharp and alive. For I, you see, still remember from a different, less distant time, another war, another battle, another place far from home. I too was a soldier once, and young.

I returned to my chair and watched the rest of the fanfare, my mind filling with thoughts of battles before I was born and my own personal memories of battles both past and present.

At that time my kinship with that old soldier and all fighting men, was affirmed and reaffirmed. A soldier you see, from any war, any country, anyone who wears a uniform in times of conflict, is a true brother and comrade in arms.

We all left our youth and many left their lives on the numerous fields of both victory and defeat. Yet, in a way, only a soldier, a true survivor, can understand we will always be young.

So to all my brother soldiers, members of all branches of the service, from all wars and almost wars, men and women in uniform from duty stations that span the globe, one and all, may we always stand tall and proud. May we never be embarrassed to let a tear run down our cheek, with pride and remembrance whenever we think, or are reminded of the time when we were soldiers once, and young.

John C. Bullock
V.V.A. Chapter 53
A.D.V.A.
24 Inf. Div. Assoc.

HOW ABOUT SENDING A CARD TO AN AILING COMRADE

TWIN - OCEAN GAZETTE
Somewhere at sea - Saturday, February 7, 1942

JACKS, JILLS AND JOES JEER JERKY JUSTICE

A stern and hardy justice was handed out indiscriminately to officers and nurses by King Neptune and his court on his visit to the ship at the Equator. A fascinating pomp of the old school (the one that burned down) marked the elaborate ceremonies on the after deck.

Gathered at the bar with Neptune were his daughter, the Royal Barber, the Royal Prosecutor and lastly the court policeman, as motley and ribald a mob as any seafarer is apt to encounter. Herded in abject procession came the miscreants to hear their crimes proclaimed abroad and the penalties attached thereto.

Highlighting the procession of lost causes to be herded aft was the gracious appearance of General Rose, who after hearing several muted charges against his name, was dunked in egg and blood and thence in the pool.

The nurses also joined the long list of Equator-passers and were hustled into the briny after a general warning in bulk. Two hardy souls who resisted the police had their dresses rudely torn from their backs while 3000 soldiers patiently shouted "boo," "fake."

It is well to pause in the narrative here to explain in some detail the operations of the Royal Barber, who early caught the fancy of the mayhem fans. This sturdy in gallant trunks and old rope strands seized his victims and then plastered them with a pasty mixture of flour, scraped some off with a ruler, finishing up each satisfied customer with a chuck in the pool.

By and large it was a successful passage with all concerned getting happily discomfited, which condition was gaily prolonged when the engineer obligingly shut off all the water on the ship, following the ceremony.

(This article is copied from the Twin-Ocean Gazette, aboard the USAT Argentina. Sent in by George Merrill who served with D Co 182 Infantry.)

A TRUE BELIEVER

Just a few line to let you know I'm fine and hope its the same with you and yours.

I don't think I can wait for a Newsletter every three month! If I mailed you a hundred dollars would it be possible to once again put the AMERICAL NEWSLETTER out every two months? Maybe some of the other members will help out!

Reunions are nice but you don't get enough time to spend with each and every buddy. That is why I also go to the Artillery reunions even though I was a Medic with B Company, 182 Infantry.

Best of luck and health,
Bill McCormack

Ed Note: Mac, thanks a lot for your kind words and offer. The Newsletter is the biggest item on the Americal budget--each issue costs in the neighborhood of \$3000.00. Also it takes quite a bit of time putting it together. Thanks again.



Above is a picture of the Armory that is now the home of the Americal Museum. This Armory, in Worcester, MA is the oldest Armory in Massachusetts and is being completely restored. It will be home to several Massachusetts National Guard units as well as the Americal Museum.

The Americal Museum will be located on the second floor. All the Americal artifacts are now at this site but are not yet on display. As soon as the rehab of the second floor is finished the committee will begin arranging the artifacts.

Right now it looks like and late spring or early summer re-opening.

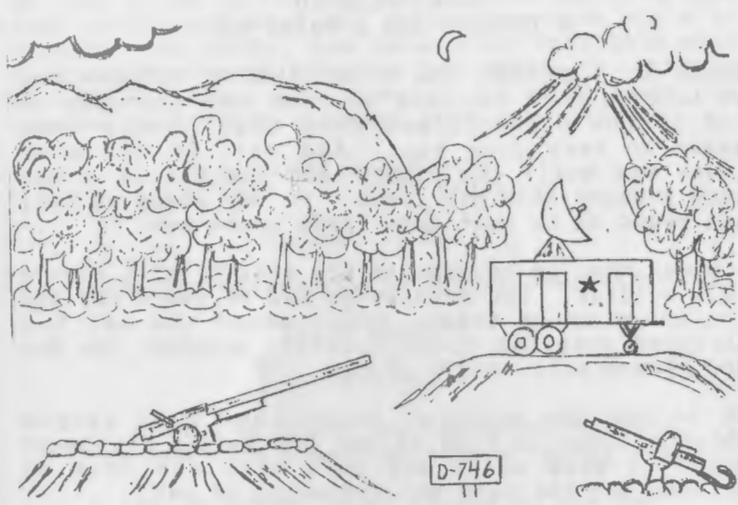
G COMPANY 164 INFANTRY

On the way to Leyte we were off the coast of Hollandia, New Guinea. There were several ships in our convoy. I was sleeping on deck in my hammock with the netting on, to let it air out. About six in the morning there was a loud roar and the side of our ship had a 40 foot geyser going up into the air. I was tangled up in the netting when the orders to "Abandoned Ship" were given. We were told to standby the side as the nets were lowered and the lifeboats lowered. Seemed like a 40 foot drop or so but some of us decided to jump. The feeling was like slow motion and after I hit the water it felt like I floating on a cloud, everything seemed so silent. There were life boats all over the place. Some were heading to shore and made it there. We turned around and got back on our ship. The story was that some Jap torpedoes would explode when out of gas.

The payoff came just the other day when I was making arrangements for lunch with two guys from the 164th that I had never met before. The one I spoke to on the phone remembered the incident. He went on to Hollandia and stayed there that night. He told me that the torpedo had glanced off the bow of his ship and exploded at the side of another transport (mine). He lives about 12 miles from me and we haven't met yet, but it sure is a small world.

Jay Roth

WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED YOUR NEWSLETTER
PASS IT ON TO A NON-MEMBER
GIVE IT TO A V.A. HOSPITAL
PUT IT IN THE READING ROOM OF YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY



'Twas the night before Christmas, a long way away,
Fifty years ago, on this very day.

Those G.I.'s in gun bunkers did lay,
At a jungle cove, called Empress Augusta Bay

A quiet Christmas eve,
seemed to be in the offing,
But very shortly,
the air raid klaxon was coughing.
This went on through the night,
six times in all,
Washing Machine Charlie,
was sure having a ball.

Charlie finally went home,
and soon dawn would break,
Those weary GI's were planning,
some sack time to take.
Suddenly Bougainville's crust,
started to quiver and quake.
What a wonderful gift,
a violent earthquake.

Thirteen times in all,
the ground shook that day,
Our hero, Bunny Butt,
changed his drawers they say.
That Christmas on Bougainville,
we will always remember.
While other memories may fade,
like a fires dying ember.

(The above sketch and poem was sent in by
Leonard "Sack" Owczarzak).

121 MEDICAL BATTALION - 132 INFANTRY

Some time ago Rick Olson posted a note regarding how we WWII types must have felt the pressure of not knowing when we would finally go home, as opposed to the Vietnam people serving 1 year. or myself, when I got assigned to the Americal in 1943 and met the Guadalcanal guys and found out that they had been in the service for over 30 months [18 months overseas], I realized that it was foolish to think of going home until the old-timers had left. I think they finally left after serving around 48 months!!

Have not recognized any 121 Med. Bn. people in the ADVA (Prodigy) yet. As Doc Merk says "so it goes".

DONALD BALLOU

COMPANY E, 164 INFANTRY - MARCH 1944

In a recent publication of the Americal Newsletter I noticed an article requesting true stories of action. The following is a true accounting that might just shock the men who fought on Hill 250, and of some whose lives might have been saved, except for the greed of glory among individual commanders of high rank. This accounting is true and reflects my disgust at incompetence and alcoholism among the so-called elite brass of our country,

BEFORE the Japanese hit Hill 260 and the 182 Million Dollar Tree, I was hoisted up to that outpost, about 80 feet above the ground. The staff and Company CO's of the 2nd Bn, 164 Infantry were making a tour of your front line at that time. While up in the tree I could see nothing but tree tops and jungle, and deemed the trip up the tree and outpost dramatic, but useless.

A few days before the Japs began their anticipated attack on approximately 9 Mar 44, the 2nd Bn. of the 164 was moved to a secondary line behind the 1st Bn, of the 164. (This was on a ridge overlooking the 1st Bn.)

After the initial anticipated artillery fire by the Japs from the far bank of the Torokina River, and from Hills 500 and 1111, (we had a grandstand seat and could see the flashes of each gun) the 182 Infantry battle for Hill 260 began. I took Co. E, 164 out through the B Co. 164 line on a limited patrol, that was ordered to go up the Torokina to the forks, (alongside Hill 500) then patrol down river to the juncture of the 164 and 182 patrol sector. Arriving at the 182 sector in the early afternoon we met a 182 patrol of about 20 men. To my surprise they were wearing helmets. What can you hear in the jungle wearing a piss-pot? I advised the Lt. of the fact and his patrol returned to the line after reaching the river.

My lead platoon led by Lt. Jim Pfieffer, (sp?) was well into the 182 patrol area, for we had no definite lines of demarcation. He returned to tell me that back of Hill 260 a stream of Japs were crossing back and forth across the nearly dry river-bed. You can guess the rest.

We proceeded downstream within easy rifle shot and killed seven Japs caught in the open. In an effort to get documents, Pfieffer, Disrud and Catalfamo were wounded and because of overhanging trees we could not use our 60 mortars.

I called on the radio for 245 F.A. fire, not knowing at the time that they could fire only into the 164 sector. After a long agonizing wait, some big shot answered from the other end and ordered me out of the 182 sector. Here we had the opportunity to possibly stop the fighting on Hill 260 but were stymied by bureaucracy. The impression that I got was that the 182 would do all of the fighting in the 182 area and didn't need any help. I got the impression that this was the private war of the 182!

Upon our return to the lines, Col. Dunn, (I believe he was your 182 C.O. at the time) met me at the B Co. 164 line. He was sick at heart as I, when I explained the facts. (He had been my C.O. in Fiji, 2nd Bn 164 and we had a good rapport) He asked me to present the facts to a one-star, General McCulloch, an overage, pompous, man who was evidently running the 182, overriding Col. Dunn. He had a private tent complete with mappage in the rear of the 182. This man dressed

me down and tried to make me out an idiot. He said in no uncertain terms that I had no business in the 182 patrol area and poohpoohed all the ideas I had about crossing the Torokina and cutting off the Jap supply line. After all, he informed me, I was only a 23 year old captain while he was a graduate of West Point!

The next morning I was ordered to meet with several silver and birds, and a few men carrying stars. I blew my cool. I was sick of red tape and incompetence and told them all to get off their asses and get out where the bullets were flying. I added some pertinent remarks about graduates of the great school along the Hudson, and of alcoholism and cover-ups.

When I left that meeting I knew I would be up for a court's martial, but didn't give a damn. But it never happened! Perhaps my honest anger shamed them. Instead, a wonderful thing happened. A young Lt. Col. Taylor from the 245 Field Artillery came up and put his hand on my shoulder. He said, "Charley, not all West Pointers are P----! The next time you want artillery fire, you call me! I'll see you get it!"

From then on, whenever on patrol, I asked for and got a Forward Observer from the 245 F.A.. I fondly remember a few: Lt. Kerlanski and Captain Fall. There were others whose names have slipped by me in the past 50 years. In the Philippines above Ormac, above Capucin, the 245 saved the day for us more than once. Even some of their F.O.'s were wounded while with my company.

Enclose is a brief clip from a 164 member who recently wrote into our Regimental magazine. It supports my claim that Col. Taylor was an exceptional officer and true to his word. ----"In reading the News, I see a couple of names I recognize. One is Capt. Walker. It seems that he was promoted to Major shortly after we arrived in Japan 8 Sep 45 and was bumped on points because of the advancement to Major and had to stay longer, like us newcomers. I know he was an outstanding officer that knew how to talk on field comm to get artillery support in a hurry"---Zane Jacobs.

If anyone doubts the authenticity of this missive, I can provide proof, for many of the Co. E, 164 are still alive. (Williston National Guard) Perhaps Col. Taylor is yet alive. He was somewhat older than me and would be probably be nearing 80. I'm only 74!

Why the patrol of the 182, that we met by the river, didn't pursue down river in their sector is something i can't explain, but I can make a damn good guess!

Sincerely,
Charles Walker
Former C.O. of Easy Co.
164 Infantry.

P.S. I suppose you dread putting anything in the Newsletter that is derogatory, but the facts in this case have bothered me these many years. It's only fair that the men who fought on Hill 260 should know the truth, and not the cover-up!

I am enclosing a photo I took of Col. Taylor and Captain Fall (or Full). As we were not allowed cameras, a Japanese officer kindly donated his pistol and camera with three rolls of film to me. Hence the lousy, home developed photo.

Ed Note: I read your letter over many times and Continues on Page 19

E COMPANY 164 INFANTRY (Continues)

feel that you are entitled to speak your piece. I am looking forward to receiving a lot of pro's and con's but I believe your story is basically true and I for one am glad to hear it.

As for that 182 patrol--shortly after the 182 arrived on the line adjustments were made and the 1st and 3rd Battalions were left in the line. The 2nd Battalion was held in reserve, garrisoned Hill 260 and conducted all combat patrols in the 182 sector. (This did not include security patrols in front of the line companies--they provided their own security patrols) I do not ever remember going on a patrol wearing a tin hat. We had long since learned that this was not practical.

Once the battle on Hill 260 started the entire 2nd Battalion was thrown into the struggle. My unit, E Company, was reduced to about twenty men in 24 hours.



Mount Bagana - Torokina River
(Hill 500, left-Jap held. 164 Patrol area)



Left to right: Capt. Taylor, Capt. Full

Colonel Long was the Regimental Commander during this fight. General McCulloch was the Asst. Div. Commander and was sent to the 182 Command Post to take command of the operation by Americal Commander General Hodge.

Lt. Col. Dexter Lowry commanded the attack with E Company. Lt. Carlson, E Company C.O. was among the first wounded and evacuated. Col. Lowry then took command of E Company until it was withdrawn the next day.

The history book, Under the Southern Cross, on page 149 states and I quote, "During the day in the Americal Division's zone of action (9 Mar 44) patrols once again moved out to reconnoiter the front. One 164 Infantry patrol ran into a group of fifty Japanese near the banks of the Torokina River, five hundred northeast of Hill 260. Two of the enemy were killed in the exchange of fire and a pair of machine guns and one mortar were put out of action." (Could this have been your Patrol)?

I have just recently proof-read a book being put out by the Turner Publishing Co. and it is odd that this story mentions an incident about helmets, and I quote "Complications developed when the patrols of the 164 Infantry, given instructions to shoot on sight any creature wearing a helmet, ran into patrols from the 37th Division who were unaware of the orders given Americal men. The two groups avoided mutual carnage at the last minute, and subsequently the patrols of the 37th Division also went bareheaded."

I questioned the writer on this point because I do not believe the Americal ever issued orders to go bareheaded on patrol. We always wore a fatigue hat or cap if you may.

I was out in North Dakota in September to attend the dedication of the 164 Memorial. I am sorry that I did not have a chance to talk to you.

101 MEDICAL REGIMENT 101 MED. BN. 121 MED. BN.
DID YOU KNOW THIS MAN?

My biological father, Frank C. Gaffney, was drafted in March of 1941. He passed away March 31, 1994 at the Soldier's Home, Chelsea, MA. I met him for the first time at the age of 52, he was 84. My mother for some reason or other, never told him about me. He said he was there in New Caledonia when the Americal Division was formed and was part of the 101 Medical Regiment.

My father was with the unit on Guadalcanal from 7 August 42 until 21 Feb 43. He was awarded the Bronze Star. I would like to know if anyone in the association may know something about my father.

There was a Chinaman in the unit that was a friend of my father. He was burned somehow. His name was King Yee. I would like information on him also. Send any information to:

Frank E. Clattenburg
[REDACTED]
Mesa, AZ 85211-4357

(This letter is appearing again because the soldiers name was not included in the last issue. sorry about that)

NOW HEAR THIS!

The Chapters are financially independent from National Headquarters. Any dues that are requested by a Chapter are up and above your National dues. It is necessary for Chapters to raise funds through dues in order to pay for postage and other office expense.

AMERICAL DIVISION ARTILLERY

ANNUAL REUNION

RAMADA INN NORTH NASHVILLE, TN

April 24, 1995 through April 30, 1995
For more information and reservation form

WRITE

E.R. Horton [REDACTED] Leland M. Cox
[REDACTED] -or- [REDACTED]
Timberlake, NC Mentone, AL
27583-9574 35984

REUNION H COMPANY - 182 INFANTRY REUNION
MAY 27, 1995

SILVER FOX RESTAURANT EVERETT, MA

CONTACT;

John Groppi
[REDACTED]

Dorchester, MA 02125

211 COAST ARTILLERY

Clint Willis, the son of Brandon E. Willis, who served with the 211 Coast Artillery is seeking anyone who served with his father on Bougainville. Any information should be sent to Clint at :

Clint Willis
[REDACTED]
Mt. Vernon, IN 47620
Tel. [REDACTED]

Ed Note: The 211 Coast Artillery was originally a Massachusetts National Guard unit. This was one of the first National Guard units in Massachusetts to be activated. This was on 16 Sep 40. In October of 1940 it was moved to Texas and then to California. Here its history becomes vague because of units being redesignated. It appears that some of the 211 became the 746 AAA and would have been with Corps Artillery on Bougainville.

M COMPANY 182 INFANTRY

I am trying to contact anyone from M Company, 182 Infantry who was temporally stationed in the Santa Cruz Islands (Vanikoro) and I understand the detached unit was under Captain Williams command rather than Roberts. The information is badly needed for my book: *Hell's Islands, Guadalcanal, Tulagi, Guvutu, Tanambogo, Florida, Malaita. The Landmark Crusade.*

I am also seeking to purchase envelopes (not the letters or correspondence) in good condition posted from the Americal Division and/or Task Force 6814 from New Caledonia and Task Force 6814A from the New Hebrides (Efate and Espiritu Santos) and Guadalcanal by a collector; for my personal collection. If you can help in any way, write:

Stanley C. Jersey
[REDACTED]
Carlsbad, CA 92018-0713

PHILIPPINES OK'S WORLD WAR II MEDALS

World War II veterans who served in the Philippines for not less than 30 days between 17 Oct 44 and 3 Sep 44 are now eligible to receive the Philippine Liberation Medal (PLM) from the government of the Philippines.

The award will be issued free to veterans who make application, with appropriate verification of service, through the Defense and Armed Forces Affairs Office (DAFAO) of their Philippine Embassy in Washington, DC

In addition, DAFAO will issue five other medals to World War II veterans of the Philippine campaigns: The Philippine Defense Medal (PDM) to veterans who served in the Philippines for not less than 30 days between 7 Dec 41 and 15 June 42--the Philippine Independence Medal (PIM) to veterans who received both the PLM and PDM--the Philippine Republic Presidential Unit Citation Badge to veterans who served between 7 Dec 41 and 10 May 42, and during the campaigns from 1944 to 1945--The Asia-Pacific Campaign Medal to veterans who had continuous service of at least 30 days in the Asia-Pacific theater of operations between 7 Dec 41 and 2 Mar 46.

An administration fee and shipping fee of \$7 (US) is required for each medal other than the PLM. Checks must be made payable to DAFAO in Washington, DC.

Eligible veterans wishing to receive these awards should forward their request with a copy of their discharge papers, DD form 214, or other service record detailing their service in the Philippines to:

Defense and Armed Forces Affairs Office
Embassy of the Philippines
Veterans Affairs Section
1600 Massachusetts Avenue
Washington, 20036

For further information call [REDACTED] or FAX [REDACTED]

(Many thanks to Tom Burbine and Bernie Borowski for bringing this article to our attention)

L COMPANY 182 INFANTRY
Stanley Coolen

I am writing for my husband who had a stroke on October 30, 1993. He has come a long way but will never walk again and is paralyzed on his right side. Hopefully he will come home soon from the V.A. Pines Nursing Home in Bay Pines, Florida.

I would like to extend our thanks to all who remembered him and wrote, sent pictures, and even put his poem (which was written to his sister 52 years ago) in the Americal Newsletter.

Bob Doucette deserves so much credit for all his efforts in keeping his old Company (L Company, 182 Infantry) together and it is appreciated.

Many thanks.
Catherine Coolen

Stanley's new address is:
Stanley Coolen
[REDACTED]
St. Petersburg, FL 33710

1995 ADVA NATIONAL REUNION COMMITTEE

Meet your '95 Committee (same group that ran the 1990 ADVA National Reunion):

John C. Micek - Chairman	132 Infantry
Mitchell Przybycien - Asst. Chair	132 Infantry
John "Dutch" DeGroot	23 M.P. Co.
Brian Mulcrone	23 M.P. Co.
Dr. Robert C. Muehrcke	132 Infantry
Fred G. Hitzman	132 Infantry
John Gentile	57 Engineers

The '95 Reunion runs from Thurs. 6/22/95 to Sun. 6/24/95 in the Marriott Hotel, Oak Brook, Illinois

Thurs. 6/22/95 - Registration starts at noon. Hospitality Room open from noon to 11:00 P.M. Entertainment at 8:30 P.M. Bar prices very LOW.

Fri. 6/23/95 - Early golf for those interested. Various bus tours available, i.e., a Chicago tour; a river boat casino gambling tour; a tour of the world famous "Catigny War Memorial"; an evening musical at the Drury Lane Playhouse. Hospitality Room open from noon to 11:00 P.M. Entertainment at 8:30 P.M.

Sat 6/24/95 - General Membership meeting starting at 9:00 A.M.. A combined luncheon (ladies & gentlemen) at noon. Memorial Service at 2:00 P.M. in luncheon area. Hospitality Room open from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Banquet cocktails 6:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. (2 free drinks per dinner ticket) Dinner/speeches 7:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

Dancing/Socializing 9:30 P.M. to 12:30 A.M. Hospitality room open from 9:00 P.M. to MIDNIGHT.

Sun. 6/25/95 Farewell breakfast 7:00 - 11:00 A.M.

WATCH YOUR MAIL -- YOU WILL BE RECEIVING A HOTEL RESERVATION AND REUNION REGISTRATION FORM ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF JANUARY 1995. RESPOND IMMEDIATELY!

See you all in Oak Brook, Illinois!

Joseph G. Micek
'95 ADVA Reunion Chairman

721 ORDNANCE

I received the Newsletter an Wednesday and your letter on Friday. Thank you very much for the follow-through. While I'm on that line ...thanks also for the dedication and service in editing the Newsletter. It's no small job I know, and you bring a lot of pleasurable nostalgia to us old f---. For many years now I've had a different opinion of volunteers, and i say God Bless 'em.

The number of World War II members in he area is terribly slim but I'll try to make contact. I'm really saddened by how few we are. But then I need to remember I was only 18 when I jined-up. I further appreciate your invitation to write a history of the 721st and I would love to do it, but I'm devastated at the loss of memory. I didn't join the outfit until mid-'44. A lot of history had gone past and most of the names are no longer in my mental file. It's funny, the images are so clear but the names are gone. Maybe one day...and I'm looking forward to the Division history to perhaps jar a few memories.

I don't know if we are unique, but there seemed to

be a lot of inter-unit friendship in the Americal that I didn't see in other groups. I went on detached service with the 57th Combat Engineers Battalion for a few months and never experienced any ragging, either serious or joking. I remember on Cebu, the MPs returning a pair of shoes to one of our guys after he bailed out of his shack one night in the middle of a raid. I don't know...I just felt we had something special. Oh! before I go ...what does "FWC" mean after a name? And what outfit were you in?

Jack Shapiro

Ed Note: First, I must apologize for publishing such a letter praising the volunteers that make the ADVA work. But knowing that we are pleasing our membership is our payment, and only payment, we receive for a labor of love. Thanks Jack.

The FWC means that person is a member of the Far West Chapter. Joe Feeler, of Albuquerque, is the Chapter Commander and I'm sure you will be hearing from him soon.

I served my time, four years with thirty three months overseas, with E Company, 182 Infantry.

We need you members that joined the Americal later in the war. Most of the old-timer were gone by then and we need to know how you finished the job that we started.

A COMPANY - 164 INFANTRY - GETTING READY



DO YOU RECOGNIZE ANYONE?

The above picture was taken of A Company 164 Infantry on Bougainville as they awaited transport to Leyte. The picture is dated November 1944 and was taken at the base of Hill 608.

Al Morrone sent the picture in with regrets that he did not know any names. Do you?

THOUGHTS WHILE SHAVING

An old-timer is a man who has had a lot of interesting experiences---some of which may be true!

247 FIELD ARTILLERY FIRE DIRECTION CREW BOUGAINVILLE



DO YOU RECOGNIZE THESE GUYS?

Sitting L-R Shirk, Bradley, Blind, Marlow, Pfeil, Peterson, Hartley. Standing L-R Douglas, House Folmer, Lyons.

Photo courtesy of Jack Folmer

H COMPANY 182 INFANTRY

On August 20, 1994 committee members of Company H, 182 Infantry paid a visit to Lt. Jack Algeo, a veteran of H Company, at his home in Meredith, NH.

Jack greeted us like long lost brothers and an enjoyable day was had by all. We talked about our experiences during the war, on such far away places as New Caledonia, Guadalcanal, Fiji, and Bougainville, old pictures were passed around and departed buddies noted.

Jack and his wife Kay, served refreshments and they told us of their life living in New Hampshire in the summer and Florida in the winter. They both look great and feel the same. Jack promised to attend the next reunion of H Company that will be held the last Saturday in May.

After leaving New Hampshire, the following day, we made a surprise visit on another member who live in Billerica, MA. He is a retired dentist who had a practice in Somerville. He is the father of seven children. He was given an application to join the ADVA and also promised to make our next reunion. (Jack Algeo is already a member of the ADVA)

The Committee was made up of Bill Murphy, Mike Lombatdo, Fred Zaino, and John Groppi. We have plans to visit several other members of H Company.

John Groppi
Chairman

Do you have a story that would be interesting to our membership? It can be humorous, tragic, or just something about your every day life while in the Army.

We are still interested in stories about New

Caledonia, Guadalcanal, Fiji, and Bougainville and there are many more to be told. However, we have not had that many stories about the Philippines or Japan. Many of us old-timers had served our time and gone home when the "I Shall Return" started and we would like to hear about what our old outfits did after we left.

Many times I hear "there are too many stories about this unit or that unit". Remember, it is men from those units that write in---the Editor does not make up the stories. Lets have a story from your unit be it Artillery, Signal, Medic, QM, Engineers, MPs, Infantry, or you fellows in the Headquarters units. You all played a part and were part of the BIG PICTURE.

Pictures are great! Be sure to put your names on the reverse side and tell all you can about the shot. Your pictures will be returned.

Who were the Engineers that got that railroad up and going in New Caledonia? That would be a great story! How about those truck drivers from the Quartermaster that ran those mountain roads in New Caledonia? They must have some tall stories. I know one MP told me he had one hard time trying to make you slow down. Let hear it from the audience. All you World War II guys send your stories to:

Jim Buckle

Harwich, MA 02645

We also need stories from you young guys that did your tour in Vietnam. Rolly would like very much to hear from you. Write to:

Roland T. Castranova

Peabody, MA 01960

WHY ISN'T THERE A J COMPANY?

This question has come up many times but the answer has been elusive. Gil Dempsey was not a man to let this question go unanswered. So--he wrote to the National Archives and here is the official answer taken from "Infantry Part I: Regular Army".

---for official designation, however, a new system began in 1816. Under this system the companies were known by letters, instead of numbers or by the names of their commanders. The two flank companies received the letters A and B. and the others C through K. There was no company J because J was too easily confused with I in writing.---

That answers that question. Thanks Gil.

MEMORIAL TO THE 164 INFANTRY

On September 24, 1994, a monument was dedicated to the 164 Infantry in the Fort Lincoln National Cemetery in Mandan, North Dakota.

The entire 164th Infantry was mobilized within the state of North Dakota and this Regiment has a long and illustrious history and the Regiment earned its place in the history books by being the first ground unit of the United States Army to go into offensive combat against the Axis powers in World War II.

The next issue of the Americal Newsletter will carry a full story and pictures of the dedication.



JAMES C. BUCKLE
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[REDACTED]
Lumberton, TX 77656-9429

Eligibility for Membership

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

World War II (South Pacific)	1942-1945
Korean War (Caribbean)	1954-1956
Vietnam	1967-1973

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

Dedication

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

AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 1381, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02104

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name:

Telephone:

Address — Street:

City:

State:

Zip:

Americal Unit: Rgt.

Bn.

Co/Bty.

Other

Dates of Service — From:

To:

Serial No.:

Date of Birth:

Blood Type:

Social Security #:

V. A. Claim No.:

V. A. Office — City:

State:

Occupation:

Wife's First Name:

Date:

Signature:

Sponsored by:

(NOTE: Please Enclose Initial Dues) \$12.00