



FOUNDED 1945

AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

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

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

Published Bi-Monthly

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

THE NEW AND THE OLD



NATIONAL COMMANDER
JOHN DeGROOT

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER
PETER J. MESSINA

1993 NATIONAL OFFICERS 1994

NATIONAL COMMANDER

John DeGroot

Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

William K. Maddox

Portland, TX 78374

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Stephen N. Dennison

Pittsburgh, PA 15227

NATIONAL FINANCE OFFICER

Bernard C. Chase

South Yarmouth, MA 02664

NATIONAL ADJUTANT

Bernard C. Chase

So. Yarmouth, MA 02664

EXECUTIVE COUNCILJames C. Buckle - Chairman
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Peter J. Messina

Roland L. Castronova

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Hugh J. Murnaghan

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Ronald R. Ellis

James J. Flynn

CHAPTER COMMANDERS

William J. McLaughlin Cape Cod Chapter

Stephen Dennison Eastern Regional Chapter

Thomas P. McQuade South-East Chapter

Ernest B. Carlson South Mid-West Chapter

Rush J. Propper Great Lakes Chapter

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 NEWSLETTEREDITOR-IN-CHIEF

James C. Buckle

Wakefield, MA 01880

Telephone [REDACTED]

VIETNAM EDITOR

David L. Recob

Topeka, KS 66611-2132

Telephone [REDACTED]

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

It's only in America that a Spec Four could become the Commander of such a fine organization as the A.D.V.A. Both my typing fingers are ready to take on this new challenge. I want to start my tenure with many thanks to the membership for your trust and backing. I appreciate the kind words and letters expressing support and continued success for our Association. Many thanks to PNC Messina and to all those who have given their time for our organization. I would like to thank all of you by name and deed but space will not permit.

A special note of thanks to Dave Recob, who not only does a Herculean task as Vietnam Editor, but also took on the National Convention in Kansas in an outstanding manner, (many thanks to his lovely wife for her capable assistance). If you have never been to a National Convention it is hard to explain what you are missing. Each one is unique and in itself a once in a lifetime experience. A very special and sincere thanks to all of the wonderful ladies who are coming to these functions in ever increasing numbers. Your charm cannot help to be noticed or overlooked. One other special mention by name is to thank Otto Petr, our oldest A.D.V.A. member, for coming to Topeka and making a speech on top of it. It is my sincere wish that these reunions continue to grow as the years go on. Try and plan ahead for next year's to be held in the beautiful Catskill areas of New York State.

While in Topeka much business was discussed and plans made for new projects. We, as well as other organizations, have been suffering due to the economic climate. I believe the best remedy is to increase membership. More on this later. We need to relocate our Museum to be sure that the legacy of this Americal Division is continued when we are no longer on this earth. Others, in future generations of America, can then share our history. A priority was given to the continuation of the scholarship fund. We issued our first scholarship to a member's child. I hope we can continue to grant scholarships to other family members of the Americal vets. Ron Ward has put a lot of effort into this project and it shows!

We are in the midst of our most aggressive membership campaign to date. We need everyone's help to have success. In the near future a membership package will be sent to all prospective members. All data is being computerized and mailings will be made periodically. Please send in the name, address, and unit of that old comrade, who is not yet a member, to our P.O. Box. Type it if possible, for easy input into our computers. You will notice the advertisement in this issue. You can help us be a stronger and more efficient organization by having the ad printed in your local newspaper. One of our bigger problems is that the great majority of Americal Veterans do not know of our existence. This will help in reaching those vets. If you wish to be of greater assistance, or have more ideas to increase our membership drop a line to Bill Maddox, Roly Castronova or myself. We could also use another lithographer and someone who wants to take up a POW/MIA position.

In closing, my thanks to all once again. Please remember to support your local Chapters. Also, please remember our POW/MIA's. I personally will not transact business with those who insist on doing business with Hanoi before the MIA issue is settled to the satisfaction of the majority of veterans.

Of The Troops and For The Troops,

John "Dutch" DeGroot

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

MONTHLY A.D.V.A. MEETINGS

September 11, 1993
Americal Museum Fort Devens, MA
General Meeting 10:00 A.M.

October 9, 1993
Americal Museum Fort Devens, MA
General Meeting 1:00 P.M.
Americal Museum Fort Devens, MA

AMERICAL PICNIC

On Saturday September 11, 1993, we will have a picnic at the Americal Museum Fort Devens, MA starting at 10:00 A.M.. Coffee and doughnuts will be served. Bring along your lunch and we will make a day of it. This will take place -- RAIN or SHINE.

TAPS TAPS TAPS

Joseph F. Britland
26 Signal
Fall River, MA
July 26, 1992

Dwight L. Fanshaw
11 LIB
Concord, NC
June 7, 1993

Christopher MacFadden
182 Infantry
Key West, FL
December 13, 1992

Jack McCreanor
180 F.A. Service Btry
Holyoke, MA
May 30, 1993

Joseph F. Vederman
182 Infantry
Philadelphia, PA
Date Unknown

Bradford W. Parker
26 Signal
Burlington, MA
July 3, 1993

John R. Daly
182 Infantry
Malden, MA
July 1, 1992

John Harran
11 LIB
Pembroke, MA
May 30, 1993

Charles F. McCann
101 Med. Bn.
Wellesley, MA
May 30, 1993

Albert C. Thomas
182 Infantry E Co.
Holyoke, MA
May 31, 1993

Salvatore Salome
101 Med. Bn. Band
Waltham, MA
May 12, 1993

Francis P. Noury
182 Infantry
Newburyport, MA
January 13, 1993

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

James L. Adams
148 MP Platoon
Highland Falls, NY

Ricardo Collado
198 LIB HHQ
San German, PR

Burton T. Duncan
132 Inf Hq Sec Ser
Martinez, CA

Charles W. Horton
14 Com Avn A/1/1 Cav
Mandr, TX

Robert J. Liddell
523 Sig Bn
Burke, VA

Howard P. Barton
164 Inf Med Det
Tracy, CA

Clyde R. Collins
57 Eng Co A
Harriman, TN

Warren R. Hester
9 Sta Hos 70 C.A.
San Antonio, TX

John P. M. Hughes
132 Infantry
Columbia, MD

Thomas B. Lyons
132 Infantry Co B
Licking, MO

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Peter A. Mastriroio
121 Med Bn
Hollywood, FL

Stephen W. Ratcliffe
123 Avn
Enon, OH

James W. Roby
723 MT Btry D
East Madisonville,

Robert G. Short
23 Adm Co
Kalamazoo, MI

Woodrow Walker
82 Arty B/1
Wardensville, WV

Peter M. McDonald
182 Infantry
Chestnut Hill, MA

Warren G. H. Reed
23 Adm Co
Newport, VA

W. Donovan Secret
198 LIB HC/5/46 Inf
Lilburn, GA

Odes W. Smith
182 Infantry I Co
Strafford, MO

Jerry R. Wiese
11 LIB C/4/3 Inf
Randolph, NE

NEW MEMBERS

Timothy B. Baldwin
Associate
Geneva, IL
#R. Castronova

Thomas O. Dever
82 Arty D/1/82
Kinzer, PA
#Walter Keely Jr.

Burton T. Duncan
132 Inf Hq Sec Ser
Martinez, CA
#E.R. Horton

Carroll E. Dunn
221 F.A. Hq Btry
Greeneville, TN
#E.R. Horton

Marie Engle
164 Infantry
Vancouver, WA
#Bill Maddox

Joseph J. Federico
Div Arty HHB
Central Point, OR
#Self

Ronald P. Hamner
11 LIB B/6 SPT Bn
Alexandria, VA
#PNC William Dunphy

Joe T. Hernandez
182 Infantry A-T Hq
Fontana Valley, CA
#Jim Simpson

J. Reginald Horton
198 LIB A/1/6 Inf
Roxboro, NC
#Bill Maddox

Charles W. Horton
14 Com Avn A/1/1 Cav
Manor, TX
#Bill Maddox

Bob Kapp
198 LIB C/5/46 Inf
Tampa, FL
#Ron Ward

Michael D. Lottman
11 LIB 4/3 Inf TMF
River Falls, WI
#Ltc Peter J.

Lewis G. Mayfield
182 Infantry A Co.
Arlington, VA
#Paul Santogeanis

James P. Meade
196 LIB CSM/5/46
Beaverton, OR
#Lloyd Morrell

John Minelli
Task Force 6814
Dorchester, MA
#Bernie Carroll

Michael L. Nicholson
11 LIB
Hull, MA
#Bernie Carroll

Dennis O'Connor
52 Infantry D/1/52
Trenton, OH
#Bob Urban

James L. Reasner
182 Infantry F Co
Mesa, AZ
#Joe D. Feeler

James W. Roby
723 MT Btry D
East Madisonville,
William Maddox

Larry D. Salmons
196 LIB
Titusville, FL
#Jerry Hughes

Douglas R. Scothorne
164 Infantry Hq/2
West Valley City, UT
William D. Picard

Billy F. Shields
198 LIB B/5/46 Inf
Mineral Bluffs, GA
#Ron Ward

Peter M. McDonald
182 Infantry
Chestnut Hill, MA

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

NEW MEMBERS

Ronald E. Soder
11 LIB C/1/20 Inf
Duluth, MN
#John R. Wallece

Gordon W. Vander
182 Infantry E/2/
East Pointe, MI
#John G. Groppi

Ivan E. Velezday
26 Engr HHC
Northampton, MA
#Arthur Pope

William R. Weber
182 Infantry E Co
Springfield, NJ
#Jim Buckle

Donald R. Wingo
196 LIB A/4/36 Inf
Austin, TX
#William Maddox

SPONSOR

CONVALESCING

182 INFANTRY E CO. 182 INFANTRY D CO.
Francis J. Buckley William Kerrigan
Hingham, MA 02043 Wellesley, MA 02181
247 FIELD ARTILLERY AMERICAL DIVISION ARTY
George Lloyd Steven J. Nichols
Brewer, ME 04412 N. Tarrytown, NY 10591

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.

COMPANY D 182nd INF.

I am sending the name and address of an Americal Veteran that I hope you will put on your sick list. He is not a member of ADVA as of now. He has been ill of and on for some time, but I was just aware of his latest illness when we both ended up in the same hospital for a week's stay.

William (Bill) Kerivan 75 Pilgrim Road Wellesley, MA 02181. Company D 182nd Infantry. I hope that some one might remember him and send him a card or two.

I am enclosing a check which I hope will help defray some of the postage costs of sending me the News' letters. I have enjoyed reading it very much and have shared it with others.

I also hope that any Americal Veteran who have not as yet will send for their medals. My Veteran's Officer urged me to send for Gerry's and we were very proud when they arrived along with a beautiful citation to go along with a Bronze Star that I am sure my husband was not aware that he was entitled to. Thanks for Listining.

Norma (Mrs Gerald) Sellers

CHAPTERS

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

Regional Commander
Thomas P. McQuade
Nalcrest, FL 33856-6345

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

Regional Commander
Ernest B. Carlson
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
Telephone [REDACTED]

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

Regional Commander
Rush G. Propper
Swartz Creek, MI 48473

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

Regional Commander
Joe D. Feeler
Albuquerque, NM 87110
Telephone [REDACTED]

WILLIAM F. McGOLDRICK-CAPE COD CHAPTER
Plymouth & Wareham & South of the Canal

Cape Cod Chapter Commander
William J. McLaughlin
Marston Mills, MA 02648

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

Eastern Regional Commander
Stephen N. Dennison
Pittsburgh, PA 15227
Telephone [REDACTED]

CENTRAL MID WEST CHAPTER
IA KS MO NE ND SD

David L. Recob
Topeka, KS 66611
Tel: [REDACTED]

HAVE YOU JOINED A CHAPTER YET?
HAVE YOU PAID YOUR CHAPTER DUES?

CHAPTERS

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

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT
Lloyd J. Morrell
Redmond, OR 97756-9612

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT
ROLAND T. CASTRONOVA
PEABODY, MA 01960

CHAPTER NEWS

EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER

COMMANDER
Stephen Dennison
Pittsburgh, PA 15227
Phone [REDACTED]

SEC/TREAS
Peter J. Messina Sec
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Phone [REDACTED]

George Yates - Sergeant-at-Arms
Everitt Williams - Chaplain

DC DE MD KY NJ NY OH PA VA WV

CHAPTER REUNION SEPTEMBER 9-12, 1993
LORD AMHERST MOTOR HOTEL BUFFALO, NEW YORK

Your 1993 Chapter Reunion Chairman, James (Jim) Rains, has planned an active and fun filled Chapter Reunion weekend. Come and join us by calling the hotel, [REDACTED] by August 20, 1993.

Your paid tickets will be picked up at the Reunion registration desk at the hotel on Thursday September 9, 1993 between 6:30 P.M. and 8:30 P.M. in the hospitality room. I must stress the importance of making your reservations as early as possible.

We need to know how many will be attending our dinner business-meeting. Also, the number of people interested in our trip to Niagara Falls. Fill out the blank at the end of this column and mail it to Jim Rains-POSTE HASTE-that means now!

ROOMS PER NIGHT
\$49 single plus tax \$59 2 people plus tax
\$64 3 people plus tax \$69 4 people plus tax
CALL HOTEL NOW -- [REDACTED] CALL HOTEL NOW!

Full breakfast is included with all reservations.

SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET: \$15 per person. You have your choice of Roast of Beef or Broiled Chicken.

NIAGARA FALLS TRIP: \$40 per person. This includes a tour of Buffalo's Naval and Servicemen's Park, and a cruise on the MAID OF THE MIST--right up to the base of Niagara Falls.

A stop for lunch will be made on the Canadian side of the Falls at the Table Rock Cafe, on the brink of the Falls. (bring proof of citizenship, such as birth certificate or voter's registration card).

CHAPTER NEWS

CALL HOTEL FOR RESERVATIONS NOW [REDACTED]

MAIL FORM BELOW WITH CHECK TO:

James Rains [REDACTED]

Orchard Park, NY 14127

Your Name: [REDACTED]

Your Guest: [REDACTED]

Roast Beef -- Broiled Chicken -- Niagara Falls

Circle choice and send check to above address

Any questions call Steve [REDACTED]

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

COMMANDER
PNC Thomas McQuade
Nalcrest, FL 33856

SEC/TREAS
Elmer E. Matola
Hernando, FL 34442

To start off this note from our great S.E. Chapter, it would be appropriate to say you comrades that did not attend our Spring meeting at Daytona Beach sure did miss a great "GET-TOGETHER". The weather was ideal, the meals were great, and as usual the Comradery at the Hospitality suite was unsurpassed.

We had a most productive and successful meeting. Our Regional Commander, Tom McQuade welcomed each and every member present, especially the three new members who received their dues card for the first time.

There is now a Memorial Stone along "Memorial Walk" in the National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL, dedicated to all Americal Division Veterans of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. The stone was dedicated on November 11, 1991.

We are now in the process of raising funds for two Memorial Benches to flank the Memorial Stone along with landscaping to beautify the area. This will assure a peaceful atmosphere for visitors to relax and meditate. Each bench will cost \$200.00 and the landscaping considerable more.

We are proud to announce that one member donated a check for one bench. I know the money was donated with strong feeling from his heart but we had to agree that he remain anonymous. Personally, and from the entire S.E. Chapter "Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity". I know we can get the rest of the funds with a great response from you.

During your travels this summer, we hope all members of the S.E. Chapter will spread the word among all eligible Veterans about our GREAT organization. Come on you younger Guys! We depend on you to carry this on!

Our next meeting will be in November at Naples, FL. I am sure it will be even more successful than the last one. You will receive further information. Only you can do it!

Yours in comradeship,
Elmer E. Matola Sec/Treas

[REDACTED]

CHAPTER NEWS

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

All systems are "GO" for the Far West Regional Chapter's Reunion to be held in Reno at the Sands Hotel on August 16 - 18, 1993.

The price is right and you may still be able to make a reservation by calling Joe Feeler at [REDACTED] IMMEDIATELY!

Two of our members are on the sick list and would appreciate hearing from fellow members:

Lewis C. Turner [REDACTED] Herbert L. Holt [REDACTED]
Oroville, CA 95966-5643 Selma, CA 93662

WILLIAM F. MCGOLDRICK CAPE COD CHAPTER
Plymouth & Wareham & South of the Canal

Several members of the Cape Cod Chapter were active in the recent anniversary celebration held at Camp Edwards. This affair was a great success and many former members of the Americal Division attended. A.D.V.A. members should know that about one third of the original Americal trained at Camp Edwards.

Chapter Commander
William J. McLaughlin

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
MINATURE COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE (lapel)	2.50
MINATURE COMBAT MEDIC BADGE (lapel)	2.50
182 INFANTRY LAPEL PIN (MINATURE)	2.50
UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS (Post Paid) (Americal History) (Soft Cover)	12.00
OVERSEAS HAT W/PLASTIC COVER (Size 6 1/4 - 6 1/2 Only)	22.00
CAP, BASEBALL TYPE W/PATCH	6.00
AMERICAL T-SHIRTS S-M-L (White)	10.00
AMERICAL T-SHIRTS XL-XXL (White) (Specify WW II or Viet on above)	12.00
AMERICAL T-SHIRTS (Viet-Black) M-L	10.00
AMERICAL T-SHIRTS (Viet-Black) EX-XXL	12.00

Send order to: Kenneth Turner

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

NOTE: Mailing charge will be added to above prices.

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

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

PNC Roland T. Castranova
In Memory Of
Billy Castranova

A.D.V.A. Topeka Reunion 1993

William E. McCormick
In Memory Of
John H. Blanchard

Mrs. Francis C. Mischler
In Memory of Ltc. Francis Mischler

Dantzler E. Smith
In Memory of Corp. John D. Bass

William E. McCormick
In Memory Of
Ltc Francis Gilbert

Jessica Chase
In Memory Of
Ernest Chase

Louis McGoldrick
In Memory Of
William F. McGoldrick

John A. Martin

Carolyn Todd
In Memory Of
Warren Todd

Ltc. Peter J. and Julie Messina

Walter and Sarah Dunn
In Memory Of
Walter Dunn

William E. McCormick
In Memory Of
Sgt. David Garry KIA 1943

National Finance Officer Joseph Chin

Richard Totten
In Memory Of
Chris Morgan

PNC Ronald L. Ward

Violet Graham
In Memory of
Walter Sweeter

PNC Kenneth R. Turner
In Memory Of

Departed Comrades of E Co. 182 Infantry

If there are any errors or omissions in the above list please notify me immediately. Some papers have been misplaced and I wish to see that every gift is acknowledged.

PNC Ronald L. Ward

[REDACTED]
St. Louis, MO 63123

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

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

COMMENDATION

Joseph B. Chin
National Finance Officer

In my final days as National Commander I want to commend you, and take official cognizance, for the excellent work you have done the past two years as National Finance Officer.

You took over the position when many of the important records were in disarray and organized the association financial records in an orderly manner. Your execution of this task has been exemplary.

Your dedication will make the work of your successor easier. Please accept my thanks for a job well done.

Best personal regards,
Peter J. Messina
National Commander

JESSE R. DROWLEY SCHOLARSHIP

The Muehrcke Foundation, set up by the family of Dr. Robert C. Muehrcke, who served with the 132 Infantry during World War II, has set up a scholarship in the name of Jesse R. Drowley, the only man in the Americal during World War II to be awarded the Medal of Honor.

The details of this scholarship will be carried in the September - October issue of the Americal Newsletter.

Dr. Muehrcke has been most active in perpetuating the history and deeds of the Americal Division. He was the driving force in causing the Guadalcanal Memorial to be built.

He has given most generously of his time and his resources to honor the name of the Americal.

FELLOW AMERICAL VETERANS

A group of your fellow veterans have been exchanging experiences about their time in the military and their present lives. This group has been using their personal computers to communicate with other veterans on a daily basis using National Bulletin Board service. We have found one that offers the nationwide coverage we need 24 hours a day with unlimited bulletin board service for only \$5.95 per month, which also includes 60 E-mail messages. That service is National Videotex, or NVN for short. To join up, you only need a IBM compatible or Apple Macintosh computer with a modem and a communications software package. To sign up call 1-800-336-9096. This service has been tested and is judged "Veteran friendly". Because of our recent interest in NVN and the 115 Americal vets that have signed on when we started with Prodigy, NVN has given us our own bulletin board called Americal Division. Get on the wagon and join us. We have weekly chat sessions plus every day exchanges. Also you might find a lost buddy.

Spencer Baba
Charles Mankin
Jay Roth

Our National Commander John "Dutch" DeGroot is signing on for the Division. Let's go guys you can't go wrong!

Jay Roth

COMPANY B 132nd INF.

I am a member of A.D.V.A. and a former member of Company B 132nd Infantry. I served with my unit on New Caledonia during the first months of the war and I am vaguely familiar with New Caledonia and the people there. I have heard Boala Joe and Fini so many times that I still use it in some conversations.

Telling you my life's history isn't my reason for this letter. I have just received my May June 1993 Newsletter. On the cover as you know is a picture of a monument with the American and French flags on either side of the monument. (I find no description of it on the inside of the Newsletter) and if my memory serves me correctly the American Flag should be on the viewer's left. It is not so on the picture. I'm far from being an expert on these matters so I can not correct you. Would you please check and find out which is correct.

I enjoy the Newsletter and look forward to it's coming. My unit is seldom mentioned but I enjoy it anyway. Thanks very much for your time and interest.

Eugene Koeppel

Eugene you would be right if this dedication was an American ceremony, however it was a French ceremony on a French possession, so the flags in the picture are in the right place. We would print any story about the 132nd Infantry that is sent to us.

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

In conjunction with the recruiting campaign I am initiating I will ask you to clip, or copy, the as below --- contact your local neighborhood/town newspaper, State VFW and American Legion newspaper, and any publication available. They are usually of service to organizations such as ours. Ask them if they would run at no cost to us. For further ads please contact Bill Maddox.

Remember, if you have a buddy who is not a member of the A.D.V.A. please send us his name and address so that he will be contacted by our membership committee.

National Commander John DeGroot

Did You wear this patch??

AMERICAL DIVISION Veterans Association

Send for Your FREE membership package

[REDACTED]
Boston, Mass. 02104
Telephone



a public service advertisement

HOW ABOUT SENDING A CARD TO AN AILING COMRADE

WANTED WANTED WANTED

Several thousand men who were entitled to be members of the National Order of Battlefield Commissions are somewhere in these fifty states and we are trying to locate them in order that they may join with us in our fraternal order.

If you are one of these men contact:

John C. Angier

St. Augustine, FL 32084

GUADALCANAL VETERANS

I have been intending to write ever since our trip to Guadalcanal last August. The trip compounded my already poor health, but I enjoyed every minute and have no regrets. After our return home, I suffered another heart attack (my third), some additional health problems, and eventually completed cardiac rehab. All this took time but I am finally on my feet and trying to fulfill a vow I made while in the Solomons.

I went to the remote village of Naiore'ore where the women still carry water for the village two miles up a steep hill. The village is primitive with no means of raising the government-required third of the cost of a water pumping facility which the villagers have been trying to secure for some time.

I have been corresponding with agencies all the way from The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in Western Australia, the Australian High Commission in Honiara, down to the village secretary in Naiore'ore. If the village can furnish one-third of the cost, the Australian High Commission in Honiara will proceed with the project and bear the remainder of the cost, as is customary for projects of this kind. In order to keep the cost low, the villagers will be doing most of the labor under the supervision of the Commission.

Jim, thanks for visiting with the fifteen member group from L Co. who met recently at Bob Doucette's home in Lynnfield.

Just a silly chain-puller to Joe Chin - you can tell him that GRY (George Roger York) is correcting him in a small way with reference to his story in the last Americal Newsletter.

1. From Noumea we went to Efate via the Australian HMS Westralia; we traveled to Espiritu Santo via the New Zealand Cruiser HMS Leander;

2. The vessel that sank at Santo was the President Coolidge - her captain couldn't wait for a naval tender to guide her through the submarine nets - he dood it, the bum.

Joe and I would communicate occasionally by Aussie radio - he worked for General Rose and his call letters were GRY (George Roger York). 'nuff said.

Ted Milgroom

247 FIELD ARTILLERY

Many thanks to Gilbert Dempsey and Joe Feeler for their help in identifying the destroyer Smith. I now have a 8 X 10 photo and a history of the Smith. The company I got this from;

Seaweeds Ship History

Sistersville, WV 26175

Their prices are very reasonable and delivery is prompt if you are looking for a story on your favorite ship.

Jack Folmer

WANTED WANTED WANTED

Several thousand men who were entitled to be members of the National Order of Battlefield Commissions are somewhere in these fifty states and we are trying to locate them in order that they may join with us in our fraternal order.

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John C. Angier

St. Augustine, FL 32084

HAVE YOU CALLED THAT BUDDY VET?

RAISE THE FLAG

When you think about your freedom
and you let your mind begin to roam
Dare to think about the sacrifice when
Johnny didn't come marching home
For it would be very sad
in the country of the brave
If we forgot one single flag draped coffin,
led to an early grave
So don't turn around or close your eyes
or begin to look away
Hear the cries from the unknown soldier
and what they have to say
They say: "Raise the Flag at least to half-mast
and my identity will be known at last
We are your fathers, friends and sons
America called and we were the ones".
So remember their lives, their death's and last
their very names
And spread their memories through your soul
like a soft, undying flame
For only you can carry their memorial
from battlefields of every kind
And only you can say a prayer
for the ones we left behind
So please don't feel empty
for your love for them is dear
For you know they would say "Thank You"
if they were standing here
For your patriotism and honor
is something no enemy can steal or dilute
And on behalf of them I say good-bye again,
And I give you their salute!
Joel Friz

Members: We are concerned about our youth with all the temptations of the world today. Here is an example of the good side of our young people.

This young college student was our Memorial Day speaker in Waterloo, IA and this poem was part of his presentation.

Col. Edmund E. Kueker
132 Infantry

Unfortunately, I failed to get many addresses that I wanted to, due to becoming ill while in Honiara. If you have addresses of some who made the trip perhaps you will be kind enough to send them to me. This would aid our effort greatly. I have only about a dozen at this time.

We have made application to the IRS to operate as a "not-for-profit" organization so that contributions will be tax deductible. The names of the organization is simply "Naiore'ore Village Water Fund", and we have opened an account at a local bank in that name. Checks should be made payable to this fund.

I sincerely hope you will want to be part of this project. We certainly will keep you apprised of progress, as well as the final outcome. I look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions write or call;

Charles W. Boyce

Jeffersonville, IN 47130

Ed Note: I sincerely hope this letter will bring results. I believe in the "person to person" approach. This money will be appreciated by the people. Of all the billions our government gives away it rarely reaches the little people - especially with our name on it. This gift will be from Americans. You are doing a good deed Charlie.

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

Kenton, OH 43326

HAVE YOU CALLED THAT BUDDY VET?

132 INFANTRY DO YOU KNOW THIS MAN? 132 INFANTRY

Information is requested for the whereabouts of a former Medical Aidman.

He is Frank P. Castano. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 132 Infantry.

On Bougainville he was awarded the Silver Star Medal for action at the Hornet's Nest. In the Philippines he received a Field Commission and was awarded an Oak Leaf Cluster to the Silver Star. He was also wounded and received the Purple Heart.

If you know of this man contact:
Robert C. Muehrcke M.D.

Oak Park, IL 60302

FIRST ARMY CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENT OF GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Joe Micek, 132 Infantry is one of two candidates for the presidency of the Guadalcanal Campaign Veterans Association. This is the first time that an Army man has been a candidate for this post. And---Joe Micek is an Americal member!



Joe has been Senior Vice President, National Secretary and currently National Treasurer of the GVC. He is the Editor of the newspaper, "Guadalcanal Echoes".

Joe is Treasurer and Project manager of the Guadalcanal-Solomon Islands War Memorial Foundation who constructed the magnificent monuments on Guadalcanal and arranged for the official dedication on August 7, 1992.

The GVC has been in existence for over twenty years and has 4,000 dues-paying members. The office of President has never been held by a U.S. Army Guadalcanal vet, always by the U.S. Marines or the U.S. Navy.

If you are a member of the GVC and will be at the September 1993 National Reunion, Please cast a vote for our Americal vet, JOE MICEK. Tell your friends to do the same.

THANK YOU

Joe Micek

SICK CALL CONVALESCING SICK CALL

246 FIELD ARTILLERY

Col. Chester C. Holloway

182 INFANTRY

Herbert Holt

New Smyra Beach, FL 32069

Selma, CA 93662

DIVISION ARTILLERY

Robert Correll

182 INFANTRY CO. F

Lewis C. Turner

New Brighton, PA 15066

Oroville, CA 95966

HAVE YOU CALLED THAT BUDDY VET?

DIVISION ARTILLERY HQ & HQ BATTERY

I would like to thank you for printing my last letter in it's entirety and for your comments.

I am sure many others have supplied the writer of the article on Page 7 (May-June 93) with the names and general rank who were omitted from his list. On Page 413 of our book "Under the Southern Cross" are the names of the Generals he missed. They are: Generals Woodward, McCulloch, Slocum and Ridings. Have I missed any?

I wish to alert everyone that two of our old Army family are on 'Sick Call'. Col. Chet Holloway is ill from complications following surgery and Bob Correll is recovering from his second knee replacement and is rehabilitating at home.

Bob is well aware of our quest to find Division Artillery HQ Battery buddies and has just recently returned from a visit to see Bob Burns and his wife Ellen, in Texas. He also made a swing through Florida to see our former BC Bill Stone and his wife Colley. The following one of my very slim leads he located Austin Gavin and his wife living in Macungie, PA. All names mentioned have been connected to our "Old Outfit" one way or another and the renewing of contacts is great for those of us communicating. I hope it leads to more help for ADVA membership.

Chuck, Charlie, Youngie or whatever, the names I have been called over the years changed many times with time, place and circumstance. In my Army days it was just plain "Young" and darn it I was!

Charles W. Young

ED Note: Thanks for letting us know about our buddies that are under the weather--that was three we hadn't heard about. How about signing some of those Arty guys up in the ADVA?

USED STAMPS NEEDED

DAV member Bernie Elmore and the Senior Citizens Volunteers of Buffalo, NY Chapter of the Americal Lung Association collect and donate canceled postage stamps to the V.A. Hospital in Buffalo and Washington, DC and over the nation. At present, 90% of the stamps go to the Veterans Stamp and Coin Club in Tucson, AZ.

Individuals are asked to send stamps to:
Stamps for Veterans
& Bernie Elmore

Depew, NY 14043-0398

HELP HOSPITALIZED VETERANS

U.S.A.T. ARGENTINA

U.S.N.T. Argentina, a large ship, served both as a troop transport and a command ship for CU-37, NYPOE to the UK, Utah Beach and Cherbourg, France destination, August 27 - September 7, 1944. It is believed that CU-37 was the first convoy after D Day to move troops directly from the United States to France.

On this crossing the Argentina carried 246 Officers, 20 Warrant Officers and 4241 Enlisted men of the 26 (Yankee) Infantry Division.

The ship, previously named the Pennsylvania, was built by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company Newport News, VA in 1929.

On December 17, 1939, while on a South American luxury cruise, the passengers of the Argentina saw the just-scuttled German pocket battleship GRAF SPEE in Montevideo harbor. A British squadron had been posted outside the harbor to do battle with the crippled German ship if she tried to escape. Trapped, the crew of the Graf Spee abandoned her to fire and explosion.

From early 1942 through January 1, 1946 U.S.A.T. Argentina made many troop carrying assignments including to Australia and New Caledonia, (that was us). Calls to Southampton, Oran, Gibralter, Freetown and Durban were made. Add Sicily, Naples, Marseille, LeHarve, Taranto, New York, Boston and Baltimore to the list.

After the Argentina arrived in New York on New Year's Day 1946, she was converted to yet another kind of service to war brides and dependents. In 1947 the Argentina was again converted to a luxury passenger carrier and returned to the South America travel lanes. The ship was laid up in 1960. Does anyone know the details of the final days of ARGENTINA of CU-37?

On Christmas night, 1992, ABC-TV's 20/20 program reviewed several British bride's reunion. There in grainy old black and white newsreel footage was our old friend U.S.A.T. ARGENTINA embarking an early 1946 group of war brides and dependents at Southampton for passage to the United States.

(From YANKEE DOINGS story by Ernie Gruen)

CORRECTION CORRECTION CORRECTION

While reading the May-June 1993 Americal Newsletter noticed the contribution by Ramon Ramirez, 'Where To Track Down A Veteran'. I thought you would like to know there are errors in the telephone number information. When I called the American Foreign Conflicts Electronic Library, the [REDACTED] number turned out to be a recording directing me to their FAX line, [REDACTED] number listed in the article or their computer modem line at [REDACTED] not listed in the article. I hope this additional information is of help to your readers.

Joyce E. Flory

Ed Note: Joyce Flory is Director of Incarcerated Veterans Outreach Program, New Mexico, and she is also the Incarcerated Veterans Section Editor of the NAM-VET Newsletter.

GUADALCANAL 1942 THE TURNING POINT

This documentary accurately depicts those dark days when the Japanese seemed to be unstoppable as they consolidated early victories in the grand plan to establish "the greater East Asia co-prosperity sphere." It also emphasizes the important role of the Coastwatcher and the platoons of loyal Solomon Islanders.

If you are interested in this video contact Jim Buckle. A single copy is \$19.95 but if twelve (12) people are interested we can purchase them at \$9.00 plus shipping and handling.

Write to me or call me at [REDACTED] or if no answer [REDACTED]

132nd INFANTRY



REGIMENT

LABOR DAY WEEKEND SEPTEMBER 2, 3, 4, 5, 1993

MARRIOTT OAK BROOK HOTEL OAK BROOK, ILLINOIS

For full details write to:

Ed Ozzie

[REDACTED]
Park Ridge, IL 60068

Mitchell Przybien

[REDACTED]
Cicero, IL 60650

DO IT NOW!

164 INFANTRY ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER 24, 25, 26, 1993

RADISSON HOTEL BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

For complete details write to:

Don Robinson

REMINDER 101 & 121 MEDICAL BN REMINDER

OCTOBER 17, 18, 19, 20, 1993

RED JACKET BEACH SOUTH YARMOUTH, CAPE COD, MA

FOURTH ANNUAL MEDIC REUNION

For complete information contact;

Bill Coronella

[REDACTED]
Somerville, MA 02114

Bill Dunphy

[REDACTED]
West Roxbury, MA 02132

SGT. JACOB VOUZA

I feel almost certain that every member of the Americal that served on Guadalcanal has heard of Sgt. Vouza. His heroism and bravery, capture and torture by the Japanese soldiers, are well noted in the annals of the Marine Corp.

I was sorry that I did not have the opportunity to meet him on my visit to Guadalcanal in 1981 but I did meet his son David during my return to Guadalcanal for the 50th Anniversary celebration last August. At that time he stated his dream wish of being able to visit the United States.

I felt certain that the Marines would pick up on this wish but they did not. However, the 164 Infantry Association is planning to bring him to their 1993 Reunion in September. They are presently trying to raise \$3000 to defray the cost of this worthy cause. If you are interested in helping please send your check to:

William Tillson

[REDACTED]
Bismarck, ND 58501

[REDACTED]
Jim Buckle

1994

AMERICAL CONVENTION 1994

The 1994 Americal Division Veterans Association Reunion will be held on June 9 - 10 - 11 - 12 at the Pines Resort and Conference Center, South Fallsburg, New York. This is a beautiful area.

Co-Chairmen Junior Vice Commander Stephen Dennison and Jack Samuels have already put together a tremendous package. A tour of West Point is included in the package along with a two hour boat ride on the Hudson River.

All the details are taken care of and all contracts have been signed and sealed along with the prices.

We are informing you of the date and place far in advance so that you can start making your plans.

MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

JUNE 9 - 10 - 11 - 12 - 1994

C.B.M.U. 536 and 537

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA SEPTEMBER 23 - 25, 1993

Since I have been in contact with the Americal Division Veterans Association I have greatly appreciated the stories about New Caledonia and the return of your members to there. I have saved the AMERICAL NEWSLETTERS so that members of C.B.M.U. 536 and 537 can read them.

This year we are having our Reunion in New Orleans, LA and I would like to invite any of the A.D.V.A. to join us. If you are interested and would like further information contact:

Floyd L. Mason

[REDACTED]
Williamstown, WV 26187

COMPANY H 182 INFANTRY

Company H, 182 Infantry held their 51st Reunion at the Silver Fox Restaurant in Everett, MA on Saturday, May 8, 1993.

Thirty two members, including some wives, turned out for the occasion. Joe Chin and his wife Barbara attended and represented M Company. A surprise visitor was Gordon Durocher, and his wife Phyllis, who journeyed all the way from Colgate, Wisconsin to be with us. We had not seen Gordon since 1943 -- we had plenty to talk about.

Gordon learned about the Company H Reunion through the Americal Newsletter. He is a Life Member of the A.D.V.A.

Company F held their 51st Reunion at the Cottage Crest Restaurant in Waltham on April 25, 1993. Bill Murphy, Mike Lombardo and myself attended.

I have not been able to find out if G Company holds a Reunion. Does anyone know?

Reunion Chairman
John Groppi

We are happy to print the information on any upcoming Reunion. However, you must have your copy in at least two months ahead of time.





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1993 ANNUAL REUNION REPORT

The dust has hardly settled over the 1993 reunion here in Topeka before I sit down and write this report and publish some selected photographs in this edition to publicize it to the membership. The 1993 reunion was a huge success. It was fun, there was plenty to eat, good lodgings, and all had a wonderful feeling of being together and sharing in a delightful experience. We expected 250 at least, but wound up with a disappointing 109 who came, but who really had a great time. We renewed old ties and strengthened new friendships. God truly showed us his love by giving us warm, cool days and nights, free from tornadoes or severe thunderstorms Kansas is known for in June and July. I believe God must have spread his arms and thundered to the heavens 'let no rains fall, no heat penetrate, and to all who have come - have fun'!... Fun is what we had, despite the shell shocked manner in which the reunion chairman wobbled about, trying to keep order, and answer hundreds of questions from attendees. Francoise and I made 109 new friends and renewed bonds with those already known. We thank-you for your kind words and patience, those of you who came. We had a camaraderie of affection seldom shared in reunions such as this. How wonderful it was to have Major General Lloyd B. Ramsey, come and join us, and be the main speaker at Saturday night's banquet. General Ramsey was Division CG in 1969-1970. He is a soldiers soldier, a down to earth man, a real general and a real leader of men. We members of the 23rd M.P. Company who were the majority in numbers unit this year for the first time, had the pleasure to serve him an additional four years while he was Provost Marshal General of the U.S. Army in the Pentagon, 1971-1975. He spent Christmas 1969 greeting troops everywhere in the division by himself and the two assistant division commanders visiting every fire base in the division. At one particular FB he made a difficult decent to a particularly precarious ridge, where when challenged by some occupants inside a fortified structure, an escort replied "the division CG to wish you merry Christmas", and a gruff voice replied, "we'll be out just as soon as we get off the phone to President Nixon!" When they discovered he was really there, they showered him with affection and thanks. That's the kind of general Lloyd Ramsey is! We all felt privileged to have him with us again, and those who did not know him, make his acquaintance.

A surprise visit from former Defense Secretary Dick Cheney on Saturday night, June 26, brought us his greetings and salutations for a successful reunion, through the auspices of Colonel Jim Franklin, former Battalion Co, 1/3 Inf. Mr. Cheney was headed west on I-70 to Colorado, spotted the welcome sign, and dropped by to say hello! He told us he greatly admired the Americal division and General Colin Powell, who was his Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and called General Powell a real gentlemen's, gentleman, and a hard working general who was proud of his former combat unit. General Powell, in 1969, then a Major was the division G-1 for General Ramsey. It was a surprise not believed possible, but a welcome surprise for us all. Then - came word that President Clinton ordered an Air Force strike on Baghdad in retaliation for the attempted assassination of President Bush a few weeks ago while in Kuwait. All in all, "Oh what a night" as the song goes!

On Friday night, June 25th, while out for a walk with her Husband, Marion, Mrs. Josephine Novinski, Chicago, IL., fell on the concrete sidewalk and bruised the right side of her head, requiring some stitches to close the wound. She returned to the Motel later, but - on Saturday, was sent back to the local Hospital by Dr. Robert Muehrcke, as a precaution from nausea caused by the fall and possible blood clot in the bone structure due to her age. A CAT SCAN showed all to be okay. She had a chance to finish the reunion in good a spirit as possible. She was a real brave little lady, believe me. The Motel paid her hospital expenses, and is negotiating with her to settle affairs. We wish her good health in the coming weeks and months with

no lasting effects.

On Friday morning 60 went on a tour of Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, the Command and General Staff College, where future Commanders and Generals are trained for command posts. They had an excellent buffet lunch at the Cross-Roads Leadership club, and according to the participants, had 'all they could eat and handle to drink'! That evening, we had a great steak dinner with all the trimmings that compounded to fully packed tummies, rounded off with a visit to the hospitality room, where everyone had a great visit.

On Thursday, after arrival at the Motel, June 24th, and check-in, all participated in a Wine & Cheese party at the pool side, and then at 6:00 p.m. participated in a huge breast of chicken plate dinner with the trimmings, and were entertained by the National Sojourners in a Build the Flag and Toast to the Flag, program, put on by Major General Frederick Funston Camp, Heroes of '76. General Funston was a Kansas boy, and was at his death the Commanding General of the South West Central Department chasing Poncho Villa on the Texas-Mexico border when a heart-attack took his life. He had been picked to lead the U.S. expeditionary forces to France in World War I at his death, and was replaced by an unknown Brigadier General John J. Persing, a member of his command, who became world renown as leader of that group.

On Friday night, June 25th, several adventurous souls ventured out into Topeka night life to a downtown club called 'P'ore Richards' to listen to a Rhythm & Blues Band called "Dangerfield & McNally Band" an upcoming group sponsored by the Kansas City, Missouri, Blues Society, in which Patrick Recob, Dave Recob's son plays the Bass Guitar. Report from the three "B's", Bernie Chase, Bernie Carroll, and Jim Buckle, with their ladies and other friends, said they enjoyed the music and had a great time. It sit the club to buzzing over these elderly New Englanders who invaded Topeka to hear this group. Their attendance was really appreciated.

At the Saturday, June 26th business meeting, after the U.S. flag and Americal flag was officially presented by the National Sojourners, several ladies were invited to attend by out going National Commander Pete Messina. Newly elected Line Officers and Executive Board Members were installed by PNC Joe Chin. John "Dutch" Degroot is the new National Commander, Bill Maddox, Senior Vice Commander, Steve Dennison, Junior Vice Commander [absent], and Bernie Chase as appointed Adjutant and elected Finance Officer. All were warmly applauded as they took their offices.

At the meeting the future of the Museum was discussed and plans presented by Bernie Chase for a home in Massachusetts. No action taken on the report, as the current location is secure until approximately 1995.

The Muehrcke Family Foundation presented the Association a \$14,000 college tuition scholarship divided in \$3,500 a year increments for a full four years, to the child of a disabled Americal veteran. \$500 was presented to the Scholarship Fund from the 100 present reunion participants from a portion of their registration fees. An additional \$400 was presented from a raffle of \$1.00 tickets, which the prize of \$100 was won by a VFW member in a Mt. Prospect post, sold by Dutch DeGroot. Other subjects presented and discussed were acted upon in prompt order.

On Saturday night at the main banquet, Mayor Harry "Butch" Felker of Topeka brought the greetings to the reunion of the city of Topeka, and made a few brief remarks. After the Mayor, General Ramsey spoke on the subject "Homosexuals in the U.S. Military" and addressed the cares and concerns regarding that problem, if implemented. Outgoing President Pete Messina presented the general with a copy of the book "Under The Southern Cross" and a pen and pencil set as reminders of his visit to the reunion. A huge one pound pork chop dinner with the trimmings was served the guests who all remarked how great food has been all throughout the reunion.

Friday afternoon, Carlo Pola of Sandwich, MA., made an odyssey to the NHRA Racing events at Topeka Heartland Park



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EXPENSES

Premium Gift - Wallet with Insert-----	\$ 2,096.80.
Premium Gift - Hatpin for Cap or Coat-----	\$ 415.00.
*Loss on Tour Busses Deposits-----	\$ 650.00.
Printing of Tickets, Sign, Name Tags, etc---	\$ 445.84.
*Forfeit Deposit for Dance Band-----	\$ 150.00.
Refunds for cancelled tours-----	\$ 97.00.
Costs of tours-----	\$ 1,854.56.
Photographer for still pictures-----	\$ 200.00.
Music by Disc Jockey-----	\$ 300.00.
Guest expenses-----	\$ 231.08.
Meeting Rooms, Hospitality Suites, etc-----	\$ 180.28.
Donation to Scholarships fund-----	\$ 500.00.
Net Loss-----	\$ 101.56.-

* \$650 was lost when we had to cancel 2 busses set aside for tours and we lost \$150 when we cancelled the Big Dance Band for a total of \$800.00. Loss was due to fact it was expected that 250 people would attend but only a little over 109 persons showed up. It was a "hit" we did not expect and wiped out any cash reserves. It was unavoidable.

Dave Recob, 1993 Reunion Chairman

VIETNAM VET RECEIVES C.I.B.

Gary L. Allen, 196th; James C. Buckle, and Frances, 182nd Inf; B.J. Carroll, and Barbara Callahan, 221st & 756th F.A.; Bernie Chase, 221st F.A.; Joseph B. Chin, 182nd Inf; Tillman J. Cole and Velma, 182nd Inf; Stanton Coleman and Verna, 247th F.A.; Earl P. Cook and Edith, 26th Sig; Albert E. Cotta, 121st Med; Jim Craig, 196th; John "Dutch" DeGroot, and Jan, 23rd MP Co; Alfred R. Doig, 247th F.A.; W. Mark Durley, 164th Inf; Malcomb P. East, 723rd Maint; Ron Ellis and Donna, 198th LIB; Phil D'Entremont; Bob Feeken, and Joy, 246th F.A.; James A. Franklin and Sue Ann, 3/1st Inf; Larry Gelnett and Janice, 23rd MP Co; Dan Herald, 11th; Ernest R. Huerta and Susan, 23rd MP Co; Phillip E. Jones and Susan; Robert L. Kapp and Carol, 198th and 11th Bde's; Victor G. Lander and Thelma, 57th Engr and 182nd Inf; William K. Maddox and Jane, 182nd Inf; Charlie Mankin, 11th; Gerald E. Martel; Robert Martin, Turner Publishing and Son; Stan Marwil and Wilma, 247th F.A.; William R. Meridieth; Peter J. Messina and Julia, 221st F.A.; Joseph G. Micek and Marie, 132nd Inf; Brian J. Mulcrone, 23rd MP Co; Robert C. Muehrcke and Lady, 132nd Inf; Richard "Doc" Mosher, 196th; William E. McCormick, Med Det, 182nd Inf; John McNow and Dola, 1/20th Inf 11th; Richard E. Norgard and Delores, 198th; Marion Novinski and Josephine, 132nd Inf; Larry O'Boyle, 182nd; Joseph O'Brien, 196th; William D. Picardy, 182nd; Verner N. Pike, 23rd MP Co; Carlo A. Pola, 57th Engr; Tommy Poppell; Ray Poynter; MGen Lloyd B. Ramsey, CG, 23rd Div; David L. Recob and Francoise, 23rd MP Co; Harry J. Rhinehart; Joseph Riccardo; Austin J. Roth, 164th Inf; Richard Scales, 196th; David A. Scott, 182nd Inf; Harry F. Schnell and Virginia, 21st Recon; Richard Smith, 23rd MP Co; John A. Shaver and Patricia, HQ Special Troops; Irvin L. Sonstegard and Muriel, 182nd Inf; Dennis Sperry and Nancy, 11th; Odes Smith and Hester, 182nd Inf; Leroy Tecube and Son Cordell, 11th; Lee W. Tucker and Ronnie, 26th Engr; Charles H. Twiggs and Connie, 198th; Frendo Vera, 182nd Inf; Ron Ward and Linda Skidmore, 198th; Jack Warkow and Jean, 221st F.A.; and - Milton Young, 1/52nd Recon.

COSTS 1993 ANNUAL REUNION

INCOME

Reunion advance from ADVA-----	\$ 4,000.00.
Registration Fees collected-----	\$ 1,500.00.
Gift from anonymous donor-----	\$ 290.00.
Deposits collected for tours-----	\$ 1,229.00.

Total cash resources before expenses----- \$ 7,019.00.

Last year while listening to some Desert Storm veterans speak of their experience, he started thinking of it again. Gibney called the military records center in St. Louis, where he was informed they had never heard of the Americal Division and that they had no proof that he was in Vietnam. Once again, he became frustrated and decided to drop the matter.

He credits his wife for seeing through his award of the CIB.

Susan Gibney, a personnel staff sergeant in the Army Reserve, did not want to let it go this time. Keeping her

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efforts secret from her husband, she began to make phone calls, beginning with two congressional inquiries last July. She made a call to the Department of the Army Awards and Decorations Branch and was told her husband met the criteria, but they had no proof he was ever in combat. She eventually contacted Steve Echard, chief of Personnel Processing Services for the Intelligence Center. Echard, himself an Americal Division veteran, did some research and found out that the Awards Branch would accept two eyewitness accounts of Gibney's combat service. Echard contacted several veteran location services who provided Susan with unit rosters from the correct time period. She picked out soldiers from her husband's unit, A Troop, 1st Battalion, 1st Cavalry, and began to call. "I had a really hard time explaining to my husband what the big phone bill was for", she said. "I told him I was renewing contact with old friends from before we went to Germany".

She located two of her husband's friends from Vietnam, who were more than willing to provide statements for him. They specifically remembered him from Operation Frederick Hill. They submitted the statements and other supporting documents, but more delays occurred. With his graduation day approaching, Susan enlisted the help of the chief of Awards Branch, who had the orders verified, issued and faxed to Fort Huachuca, at 6:30 p.m., the night before the ceremony.

The award came as a total surprise said the graduate, who reiterated that he had begun to have doubts about his participation in Southeast Asia. He said that the joy in receiving an honor that he had gone through so much to get was tempered by the memories of his days there. He said that good things you remember from combat service begin to outweigh the memories of friends left behind and poor reception upon returning to the United States; however, the realities of combat are never far away.

But, he said he "...wouldn't trade the experience of Vietnam for anything".

Reprinted from Huachuca Scout, May 27, 1993, Story by Kevin R. Rice.

SERVICE AWARDS

To veterans who are eligible for award of some particular service badge or medal who has not had it awarded, be advised that tenacity and hard work can result in the Army making the award, no matter how many years have passed. Use the above story as an example. Contact eyewitnesses you know, get their statements, and make application to the Awards Branch, Department of the Army. What have you to loose? "You can loose the award you are eligible for, that's what you can loose!"....

NINTH ANNUAL VIETNAM VETERANS REUNION
AUGUST 12 TO 15, 1993

Is set in Hastings, Nebraska. For reservation forms write: NVVR, INC. [REDACTED], Friend, NE. 68359. Tel: [REDACTED]. Chairman is Rich Smith. This is a great way for mid-western states veterans to come and meet new friends and have a swell time. Hurry your reservations as space is limited.

HAVE YOU MADE A DONATION TO THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND YET? IF NOT, PLEASE MAKE YOUR DONATION PAYABLE TO ADVA SCHOLARSHIP FUND, AND MAIL TO BERNIE CHASE, NATIONAL FINANCE OFFICER. HIS ADDRESS: 82 PHYLLIS DR, SO. YARMOUTH, MA. 02664.

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Mr. David L. Recob, 1241 S.W. 31st St, Topeka, KS 66611.

Dear Mr. Recob:

Last Saturday I received in the mail the newsletter from Chapter 317, Vietnam Veterans America, here in Kansas City, mentioning the reunion of the Americal Division Veterans Association. I may not have been able to attend, but it would have been nice to have been aware of your reunion, as I served with the American National Red Cross in 1969-1970 in Chu Lai at the 312th Evacuation Hospital and the 91st Evacuation Hospital. I am not faulting anyone for my not knowing of your existence or of the reunion.

However, I would like some information on your organization and whether or not I could become an Associate Member. I have had no contact with anyone since returning from Vietnam and am sure there are people I know who served in Vietnam during the same period I did who belong to your association.

Currently, I am project coordinator for the Missouri Vietnam Veterans Education and Resource System which is a recipient of an Agent Orange Class Assistance Program grant to assist Vietnam veterans in the state of Missouri who have children with developmental disabilities or other special needs. If there are veterans in your organization who reside in Missouri, perhaps we could be of some assistance. There are also some 75 Agent Orange grantee projects throughout the United States which may be able to assist some of your members.

Sincerely,

Amy Lazar, MSW, ACSW
Project Coordinator MOVERS
Univ of MO-Kans City
Health Sciences Bldg, Room 351

Kansas City, MO 64108-2676
Tel: [REDACTED] FAX: [REDACTED]

Ed comment: I replied to Amy, and sent an Associate Membership Application. If any of you guy's or gals remember Amy Lazar from the Red Cross during 1969-1970 at the 312th or 91st Evacuation Hospitals, I bet she would like to hear from you. "WE DO CARE!"

Dear David:

20 June 1993

I served with the 523rd Signal Bn in Chu Lai during this time from Nov 68 until Sep 69. I was driver for the Bn XO. Two Bn XO's who stick out in my mind are Maj. Roy Knight and Maj. Angel Herrera. The Commander of the Bn was LTC. Lewis MacGruder.

I would be happy if I could be put into contact with these fine officers. I also remember 1SG John Pulley, SGT Alfred Kitchens, LT. Augustus B. Mann, and Maj. Jerry Lambo. These are just a few of the MEN I served with and was happy to do so. My career did not end with the military at that time. Presently, I am a Captain with the 95th Inf Div [Tng] in Oklahoma City, OK.

Sincerely,

James Garigin
CPT, USAR

Krebs, OK 74554

Ed comment: Jim, I checked the national roster. Only you are a member of ADVA. How about you other guys out there? Know any of these people? If so, sign them up, and let CPT Garigin know their address.

Talladega, AL 35160
Tel: [REDACTED]
30 June 1993

Mr. Recob:

I'm sorry that I was unable to attend the annual meeting in Topeka, but I plan to attend all future meetings. Although I was a recon sgt with "C" 1/14th F.A., 198th LIB, I was attached to "A", 1/52nd Inf, 198th LIB, from Oct 1967 to June 1968. It was a great unit and they did a marvelous job under very difficult circumstances.

Being attached to "A" company, I was able to observe these infantrymen in action. So many times their numbers were small and often the squads, platoons, and yes - even the company - were at one half strength! Everyday, someone, a squad, a platoon, or the whole company walked over, around, and through mined areas. I saw so many heroic acts, things that happen only in the movies, become realities. I remember some names: Capt Cane, Lt. Rosner, Lt. Dore, Smitty, "Doris" Hull, Potter and Shannon, but oh, there are so many names who I have forgotten, friends, yes those friends, at that time. To me - they were all Heroes!

I hope that if "A" company ever has a reunion, they will not forget to include me. I was an "outsider", but they made me feel comfortable. They accepted me, and I appreciated that. It would be an honor to be included in any future reunion they may have.

David, if you ever meet someone from "A" company, 1/52nd Inf, 198th LIB, 67-68, please feel free to give them my name, address, and phone number.

I have been a teacher of the deaf for the past 23 years. I have a wonderful wife of 23 years and 2 sons in college. The past years have been very rewarding for me. But - never a day goes by, that I don't think of my experiences with "A" company, and the older I get, the more I appreciate the guys I served with. "I want so very much to meet with them again!"

Sincerely,

John R. Sartain, Jr.

Talladega, AL 35160
Tel: [REDACTED]

Ed comment: What a beautiful testimony to the men who served in "A" Co, 1/52nd Inf, 198th LIB. Hey guy's: Get in contact with this great guy!

AN OPEN LETTER TO VETERANS

Dr. Michael Lazorchak, D.C., 5420 N. College Ave, Suite A1, Indianapolis, IN. 46220. Tel: [REDACTED]. Co "G", 75th Inf [Ranger], Jan 68-Sep 69.

Dear Americal Brothers:

My father Peter passed away on Oct 20, 1992. He was Top Sgt. HQ Btry, 42nd F.A. Bn, 4th Inf Div, and was there at Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944. He believed in the truth, and was a patriot. I had four days with him after his heart attack, before he died. During our time together he expressed great concern over the moral decay of our leaders in Washington, who he felt had sold us out. Dad asked me to vote for, then candidate Clinton, in hopes that he would be "good to his word", and try to reduce the deficit, which threatens to destroy our country. I honored his wish. I'm angry that he was deceived and betrayed as we all were.

The President, is currently attempting to cut the military. After all, it's a big friendly world out there now, and we really don't need much of a military. Right? Think back on your own life.

This man has never been called-and served. He has never confronted his own fear-and fought anyway. He has never seen a friend killed by an enemy that wanted to destroy our way of life. He has never drawn enemy blood in defense of something bigger than himself. Even now he flip-flops on issues depending on which way the political wind is blowing. And he was able to fool a man like my dad, who never backed down from anything in his life, by playing on his fears and concerns for our country.

I ask everyone to become politically active according to your conscience. At the public library you can find a reference book called "Taylor's Guide to Public Officials". In it you will find the names and addresses of our elected state and federal officials, what committees they sit on, and other useful information. However you feel-let them know.

We've been silent too long. You can be sure that the vocal special interests get their points heard. It's time for all of us who have served and lead decent lives to be heard.

In Washington many would like to forget that our country is "of the people, for the people, and by the people." Lets remind them.

Sincerely,

s/Dr. Michael Lazorchak, D.C.
formally, Co G, 75th Rangers, 68-69.

Ed comment: The Newsletter neither endorses nor renounces contents of this open letter. It does not reflect the policy or standards of the ADVA. It is presented as a public service to stimulate and provoke thought among the membership. I shall be glad to print one objection which may present the other view. Then, the matter is closed. The Vietnam Editor reserves the right to pick the reply.

OFFICERS OF GENERAL OFFICER RANK WHO SERVED
IN THE AMERICAL DIVISION

Ref: Page 7, May-June 1993, Newsletter, same subject above.

Thanks to our readers, here are some more names of Officers who served in the Americal division in Vietnam who attained the rank of BGen to General. We regret some first names not being listed, but will publish the full name once known:

MGen. Robert L. Menist, former CO, 59th Scout Dog Platoon, 11th Inf Bde.

BGen Phillip Bolte, former CO, 1/1 Cav. Was wounded by a booby trap set on a helipad, A/123rd Avn.

Gen Colin Powell - listed, but updated. As Major Powell, was with MGen Charles Getty [deceased-listed] Nov 16, 1968, when in a helicopter crash at A/123rd Avn. Won Soldiers Medal for rescuing a crew member.

LGen Tully, former Brigade CO, 198th LIB.
LGen John N. Bradenberg, CO, 123rd Avn Bn and 198th LIB CO.

BGen Wallace L. Clement. Asst Division Commander.
BGen James V. Galloway. Asst Division Commander.
BGen John W. Donaldson. CO, 11th LIB. C/S & ADC.

BGen Andrew A. Liscomb. Task Force Oregon.
MGen Jerry A. White. Commandant, Inf Ctr, Ft. Benning, GA. Was S-3, 11th LIB.

BGen George W. Treadwell, CO, 11th LIB and CMH winner WW2.

MGen Hugh F.T. Hoffman, Jr. CO, 11th LIB.

Many thanks to the General Officers and Readers who sent these names in. We appreciate it greatly.

VIETNAM

NEWS NETWORK



BLOOPERS & BLUNDERS

Imagine the naivete of a grown man, experienced combat veteran, and one who 'thought he was on the ball', to let an insidious and offense remark slip into his writings in the last issue of this Newsletter that offends the very heart of honorable service thousands of Americal Division veterans performed in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam war, who supported our troops in the 'bush' by providing combat support services and maintenance to equipment used by front line troops. [Pg 13, left, 4th article].

The term - "REMF" - was one of the worse kind of name tags that could be put upon a person who worked direct support to combat troops, by those very troops he served. But - use that term I did, and to my chagrin, I have learned since, its derogatory nature.

I apologize directly to any Vietnam veteran who was offended by its use, and to a very honorable person I have thought well of since becoming a member of this association, Bruce Buehrig, of St. Louis, MO., who brought to my attention what this expression meant in plain, every day English. I am sorry, and I take responsibility for any damage it caused as fallout.

I thought I'd heard it all. But - that particular term escaped me. I picked it up in the writings of a person I trusted, and without bothering to inquire as to its contents, I used it, as it seemed to 'fit' into the article.

I now know its offensive meaning, and it will never be used again in these pages by me, nor permitted to be used by contributing authors of other stories to the Newsletter.

By the time the Americal Division stood down in Vietnam, and was in its final days, our troops were 'shot', they were worn out, and only getting out of country would make them whole again. Terms were created, names were invented, and a host of things born in despair and used against others by a worn out brain that meant no real harm, but its very expression, brought disharmony to the ones used against.

To me, every soldier, EM or Officer who served in Vietnam is a HERO and gets my salute, handshake, and warm greetings.

I am sorry, to have offended you guys. I deserved the tongue lashing Bruce rendered me, but he did me a great service. You can be sure this will be one of the toughest editors to get past in the future. If I don't understand an expression, or can't find its meaning, don't use it or submit it. I'll 'whack' it out on general principals.

All service in Vietnam by Vietnam veterans was honorable, no matter what job one performed. Its been said for every 11B in the field, there were five support troops to back him up. Whatever - thank you all for a wonderful service to this nation. I am a more knowledgeable individual now, and consequently mentally prepared to act as such a person. God-bless you all.

Dave Recob, Vietnam Editor

THE AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION
MAKES A GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE
AMERICAN HEART FUND AND THE AMERICAN CANCER
SOCIETY IN HONOR OF OUR DECEASED MEMBERS

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Howard County
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Produced in Cooperation with the
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VISITORS COMMISSION

As you know, I am a member of the Membership Committee and I am currently striving to locate former members of the Americal Division and bring them into the fold. Two very valuable resources that you may have would be a big help to me. If you have any rosters or shipping orders would you be so kind as to send me a copy.

I am willing to donate the time and energy necessary to tracking down any names you may have but I am depending on YOU to supply the names.

Please send them to:

PNC Roland T. Castranova
[REDACTED]
Peabody, MA 01960

A COMPANY 52 INFANTRY 198 LIB 1967-1968

I was not a Medic but I had many close friends that were Medics. If anyone one knows "Doc" Hall, "Doc" Shannon, or "Doc" Potter, or any other Medic that served with A/1/52 Infantry would you please give them my address;

Mr. John Sartain
[REDACTED]
Talladega, AL 35160-2700
Tel [REDACTED]

Ed Note: Thanks to Bill Coronella for forwarding John's letter. Unfortunately none of the above named men are members of the A.D.V.A. Hopefully some member will know of these men.

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

ASSOCIATE AND/OR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP IN ADVA

Somewhere out in some town or city in this great big country is a veteran or a relative of a veteran who is not a former member of this division, but who would like to associate themselves with us for the comradely and fellowship of belonging to a group of veterans. Likewise, family members of a former member of the division may want to belong so they can continue to share the memory of their loved one, and receive the newsletter to keep up on "what's going on with the Americal"!

We have the provisions available to us to sign these folk's up as either an Associate or Honorary member and you can obtain application and advise on costs from Bernie Chase our National Adjutant, by just writing him a letter asking for details.

We can see a growth in our membership, and at the same time put some welcome funds into the treasury to help defray costs of operations.

Membership is the job of each and every one of us. Let's all pull the wagon in the same direction.

STORIES TO SHARE

Reading the "Old Guard" section this past month, I read the article of Charlie Young of the 72nd FA on page 8 of the last issue [Mar-Apr], about our buddies going to the grave without sharing stories of their service in the Americal division.

You Vietnam vets also have stories to share and I would sure like to print them if you would take time to write them in as short a version as possible and send them in for publication. Perhaps you have some photographs of some important event that was historical in nature, or informative or just scenic. We appreciate these contributions, and where possible we will find space and print them for the reading pleasure of our membership.

All contributions are gratefully appreciated. Send articles about Vietnam to David L. Recob, Vietnam Editor/ADVA Newsletter, 1241 SW 31st St, Topeka, KS 66611-2132.

VISITATION TO VA AND HOME BOUND VETERANS

We have Brothers and Sisters in VA Hospitals who are lonely, and facing health problems beyond their ability to contain. If you can find time to visit a VA Hospital, please do so. Magazines are especially welcome by patients. We get VFW or Legion Magazines, Army Magazines, etc., and they appreciate them. Our ADVA newsletter seems to be always nice for them to receive. We also find

sometimes someone who is home bound and unable to get out in the public. A visit to these veterans is especially joyful for family and relatives that shows them we do care for our elderly or sick brothers and sisters.

A few thoughtful minutes of visitation can work wonderful medicine to a bed-ridden veteran that no doctor or medical authority can prescribe.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES TO NATIONAL OR CHAPTER YET?
THE ORGANIZATION NEEDS ALL THE MEMBERS IT CAN GET, AND IT ALSO DEPENDS ON THE INCOME DERIVED FROM ITS PAID-UP MEMBERSHIP. PLEASE CHECK YOUR DUES CARD AND MAKE SURE THAT THOSE 1993 DUES ARE PAID UP TO DATE WITH NATIONAL AND WITH THE CHAPTER. THE ASSOCIATION APPRECIATES YOUR SUPPORT!

Space permitting we will try to give a report of the June Reunion in Jul-Aug issue. If not Sep-Oct.

Louida, FL 33857
March 18, 1993
Dear Dave:

I have sent my payment for Life Membership in the National ADVA association. Here also, is "my five" for the Central Mid-West Chapter.

I want to thank you and my old buddy D.C. "Stew" Stewart of Waterville, Kansas for sending me information and signing me up.

This is the "first time I knew" of the Americal Veterans Association!

Thanks so much.

Carl W. Hawkins

Louida, FL 33857
Anti-Tank Company, WW 2.

Ed note: Look those names up fellows. There are many Carl Hawkins out there, who don't know we exist!

IN331 Darling St,
Carol Stream, IL 60187
April 13, 1993

Hi "Dave":

My name is Ray Fawkes. I would like to know if anyone remembers an incident that happened about Feb or Mar 1971 at LZ "Fat City"!

I was assigned to a ground surveillance radar team. I was the SP4 in-charge. I had 1 week training in Long Binh with the rest of the team. Some Ranger Team was going out that night, I think on an ambush patrol.

There were 3 of us in my team, and we would run 4 hour shifts.

About 3:00 a.m., one of my team members woke me up and said the "Rangers were being over run"!

I called an Arty unit of 105's for support. I have forgot the unit. The Arty was asked to fire illumination on the Rangers position at their request, but the Arty battery commander said "no"!

Things were really confused. Cobra Helicopters were "shooting the place up"! After some bickering to Arty, they finally fired some illumination rounds. We later inspected the area and found the VC removed the little parachutes from the flares, and we thought probably for bandages. At the time this happened, I was TDY to Div Arty from A Btry, 1/82nd Arty.

I am curious if anyone remembers that incident. I can be reached at the above address or on the telephone at 1-708-653-8062 if someone wants to pay for their call and talk about it.

Ed note: We too would appreciate hearing from the G/75 guy's who were involved.

SPEAK UP

Write your Senator or Congressman about Veteran issues that concern you or survivors of deceased veterans. Your voice can make a difference. Working together, we can bring changes to help all.

The Newsletter staff appreciates news and stories from the Readers for reprinting. Send yours today!



VIETNAM

NEWS

NETWORK

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

Jessica St. John 3-19-93

White Hall, MD 21161

Dear Sirs:

I was given your address by the "In-touch" program and Friends of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. I am trying to locate anyone who served with my friend in Vietnam and might have been with him when he was killed in action. I guess I'm trying to lay a ghost to rest. All I know is that He was killed when He tried to prevent 2 other men from walking onto a mine or bobby trap. He received the Silver Star posthumously for his actions. I have spoken with his Sister but even after 24 years it's still hard for Her. She says no one ever contacted Her after Joe's death, to tell how exactly what happened. The only information is on his tombstone. It reads:

Joseph H. Kelley Maryland

SSG Co A 11th Inf Americal Div Vietnam SS
BSM ARCOM PH May 26, 1947-July 1, 1969 He was stationed in the Chu Lai area. I would like to receive your newsletter and other printed matter you may publish on your members. I will be more than happy to pay membership fees, dues, etc. Please advise. Thanks so much for any help or advice you can offer. I really appreciate it. Also, Joe was there in Vietnam from Nov 68 till Jul 69. I can't wait to hear from you guys. Thanks!

Jessica St. John

White Hall, MD 21161

Tel: [REDACTED]

Headquarters, Americal Division Veterans Association, Boston, MA 02104. March 28, 1993

Dear Jessica:

I have received your letter in regards to Joseph H. Kelley, who was killed in action in Vietnam. We will print your letter in our May-June or July-August edition of the newsletter. Some or one of our members might know Joe and if we can find someone I am sure they will contact you. I am sending you an application to join our association as an Associate Member.

Sincerely,

Bernie Chase, Adjutant

White Hall, MD 21161

Dear Bernie:

Your newsletter was great, informative, and enlightening! I am so pleased you wrote me so quickly. I feel for the first time I'm really close to locating someone who served with Joe. Please print my phone number and address with my letter, and advise anyone that they are welcome to call or write. It's about time our soldiers spoke about this war and not feel ostracized or uncomfortable about doing so. A lot of us are ready to listen. I want to know about it. I want to know what Joe experienced in Vietnam during the last months of his life. I was 18 years old when Joe died. I'm 42 now. I waited to long to find out what it was all about. But, I'm glad I'm doing it now. It's a horrifying, fascinating, journey through history. Thanks again for your help. Enclosed is my application for Associate Membership to your newsletter. I am looking forward to any responses I might receive. Please start my newsletter with your May-June issue.

Ed comment: Any of you guys from the 11th Brigade who knew SSG Joe H. Kelley, and the circumstances surrounding his death, please respond to this ladies request. It's medicine that no doctor can or could prescribe to mend an aching heart. Thanks.



VIETNAM

NEWS

NETWORK

PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED
CHU LAI FIRE BASE

Joe Santiago, 3900 E. 1st St., Apt 5, Long Beach, CA., 90803-2849, a member of Far West Chapter is seeking photographs of Chu Lai compound from anyone who served with HHC, 2/1st Inf 196th LIB 1967-1968.

He would like to borrow negatives or photographs so he can make copies at his expense. You can locate him at Tel: 1-310-434-0238 for exact details of what he seeks.

Joe tells us that his Home was burglarized and the thief(s) took a metal box containing all his mementos from Vietnam and photographs. He was as he says - devastated to say the least, why some scum bum would want his Vietnam photographs and mementos. The box contained a piece of shrapnel taken from his arm. Only a veteran can understand the feelings of this kind of loss to another vet.

Can someone help this Brother in distress? Give him a call or write him if you will. Thanks guy's.

Grapevine, Texas. April 15, 1993.

Howdy Dave: This is "Mac" from Texas. Hope this finds you all fine and well, up there in Kansas. I made a couple of runs to Winfield, Kansas, back in 70, 71, & 72. Then in 73 to Hutchinson, Kansas. I am a motorcycle buff, and like to attend "meets".

Anyway, what I wanted to know is, do you know anything I need to know about this Agent Orange Veterans Claim. Any "ins" or "outs" that would improve my chances of a positive claim. I have not received my Agent Orange Kit yet, so I thought I would drop you a line and see if you had any luck. Like you, I am disabled, not the war, but from an on the job injury. I get a small pension, and that's all I got. I could really use the \$12,500 that is just sitting there with my name written all over it. I served with B-1-6 Inf, 198th LIB 1968-1969 in the 81mm Mortar Platoon. I was all over I Corps. I can remember C-130's spraying the Agent Orange S--- everywhere! Sometimes we were informed, other times we were not. Orders were to stay close to the tree line and out of direct contact with the stuff. We rotated to Hill 270 near Chu Lai and could see C-130's spraying Hills 1362 and 707. I never heard the word: "Agent Orange" until I got home. We always were told it was a: "defoliate". I'm sure I spent enough time in the bush to have either breathed it or come in contact with it. I'd like to hear. "Keep your wheels spinning and the beavers grinning!"

Bill "Mac" McMurtry, 944 S. Jean St., Grapevine, TX., 76051.

Ed note: Dear Bill. You bet. My claim was approved April 22, 1993 for a yearly benefit once a year until the program ended in Dec 1994. I was told I could appeal for back payments, and have done just that. I got my first check \$1493.33 last month. I have another due in April 1994 same amount. If my appeal is approved, I'll get all back benefits. They won't pay out \$12,500 in a lump payment. I hope and wish every Vietnam vet would apply to The Agent Orange Veteran Payment Program. [REDACTED], Hartford, CT 06104, Tel: [REDACTED] and make application. The forms are easy to fill out, and that's all it takes is 30 minutes of your time, an envelope and postage stamp. Your physician fills out a small form, and

that's it. It takes about 90 days to get answer. The Americal Division, stationed in I Corps, all the years it was, 1968 to 1972 was dosed by Agent Orange on a regular schedule and the body can come in contact with it many ways and become infected. You owe it to yourself guys, and Bill, to make an application for benefits. The government won't tell you to, but - you have that right. You fought for it, and deserve it.

REQUEST FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Leslie Hines, [REDACTED], Des Moines, IA., 50317-4130, Tel: [REDACTED] - would like to exchange copies as trade or to copy from the old Americal Division Newspaper: "Under The Southern Cross" with anyone who has a supply of same. He can be reached at the above address.

198th LIB "Locate A Brother Reunion 1993

August 19-22, 1993

Hampton, Virginia - Radisson Hotel 1-800-333-3333 for reservations August 19-22, 1993. \$63 per night. There is a \$10 donation fee requested to help pay miscellaneous expenses. Write to:

Tony May

[REDACTED]
Phoenix, OR 97535

for more information. He can answer the detailed questions. HAVE FUN GUY'S - Brothers In Battle!

F. Scott Jones, 656 Hershey Ave, Lancaster, PA, 17603., is seeking anyone who was on hunter/killer mission when a light observation helicopter was shot out of mid air and pilot had thumb shot off and wounded in shoulder; U-IH crew rescued Pilot and Door Gunner from F Trp, 8th Cav, Ponderosa Valley, in April 1971. Can You help him please?

Joel Martinez-Santiago, P.O. Box 441, Garrochales, P.R., 00652-0441, Tel: [REDACTED], Feb 28, 1993.

Brothers, I served with Charlie Co, 1/52nd Inf, 198th LIB Americal Division from July 1969 to November 1969. I have made application to join the ADVA. I belong to the DAV, American Legion Post #6 and Vietnam Veterans of America Chap #398, all of Arecibo, P.R.

I would like to very much find the whereabouts of former members of my old unit. Especially, the men who were wounded with me on October 15, 1969, between LZ Stenson and LZ Dottie. Their names are: [Cherryboy] Arthur Kuder, PFC, SSAN 300-40-2583; [Doc] William C. Hibbett, PFC, SSAN 550-84-5297; and [SGT] Johnny R. Burdick, SPS, SSAN 418-74-8303. I was told that PFC Donald Ealley went back for our "body parts" and became M.I.A. I never got the whole story, and I would like to know what really happened. I don't remember too much about where or what my unit did in the time I was a part of it.

I have pictures of some of the fellows. And, I wonder just how much they might have changed over the years. It would be nice to see some of these faces again, of people "who watched my back!". Can someone fill me in?

Joel Martinez-Santiago

Ed note: You guys ought to remember this incident. If you do, please write to him.

A BOOK FOR READING

John C. Harrell presents more emotional words, this time in the form of poetry, in "Twenty Years" by Lightning Publications, 55 pgs., \$12.95 copy, a collection of Vietnam War related poems. Harrell served 1969-1970 as a medical service officer in the Americal Division. Philip L. "Moki" Martin, a former Navy Seal, who did two and a half years in-country did the art work. To Order: Write 532 S. Raymond Ave, Fullerton, CA 92631.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

BGEN. Jim Ralph, ASA, Ret., 5091 Cannon Bluff Drive, Woodbridge, VA., 22192, Tel: [REDACTED], is seeking a Roster of the Americal Division Staff members from December 1969 through March 1970. If anyone can provide him copies, He would greatly appreciate hearing from the provider.



VIETNAM

NEWS NETWORK

MUSINGS FROM THE PAST

By Rolly Castranova, PNC

American Flag Hall of Fame

196er Ken Smith of Boston was recently inducted into the "American Flag Hall Of Fame". Ken was cited for:

"Setting the standard for organizations all over America to follow in establishing programs to help the homeless, and was noted for such by being awarded the Presidents "1000 Points of Light" award from President Bush's administration. Kens New England Shelter in Boston for homeless veterans of all wars is indeed very special, thousands of vets have passed through that facility over the last few years, a place where they regained self-respect, re-entered society, secured a job, and once again became a productive, contributing citizen of America.

Ken did it with tenacity, perseverance, much of his own monies, and contentious hard work.

Ken is in good company, with last years recipients including Ross Perot [for his work with POW/MIA's], entertainer Martha Raye [for having entertained at the front through three wars], and another 196er, Mitchell Leeds of New York, who is Executive Director of the American Academy for Entertainment at U.S. Veterans Hospitals. He was a major force in persuading the U.S. to admit and assist Southeast Asian refugees, especially the "boat people". - We Are Proud Of You Both! -

You may assist Ken in his efforts by sending donations to: The New England Shelter For Homeless Veterans, Dept 196, 17 Court St, Boston, MA. 02108".

POW

Prisoner of what?
Prisoner of lost years,
Prisoner of a government's
ability to not see the
forest for the trees?
Prisoner of the waterfall
of time constantly falling-

Prisoner of growing older, of being forgotten. Will one be discovered one day like a rare jewel, or exotic jungle animal, an almost extinct bird of butterfly of the rain forests?

Isn't it better to leave them to their anonymity? What purpose will be served by unveiling of their sorrow, of their loneliness?

Of their total loss of youth, of dreams, of a vision of salvation just in time. Will they have the answers to any of our questions? Will we have the answers to any of theirs?

S. Regele '92

May 31, 1993
Donald K. Winter
495 Spring Creek
Providence, UT 84332
1SG, USA [Ret]

Dear David:

This is Memorial Day - I have watched some of the difficult memorial programs on TV and they brought back many memories. A few weeks ago, my wife brought something I did not even know I had, which she received while I was in Vietnam. I was First Sergeant of B/20th Inf, 11th LIB, 68-69. I was on a combat sweep with the 3rd platoon on March 3, 1969. There was 24 of us on the sweep. It was about noon time when we were ambushed by a 130 man company of NVA Regulars. They were fully equipped. We killed about 30 of them, and we lost 5 killed and 8 of us wounded. In that battle, two men of my unit were awarded the nations

highest decorations. SGT Lester R. Stone, a Squad Leader was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, and SP4 Dean Moering, a Squad Leader was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, while assisting me as I lay wounded. These two men were so young, and I am old man at 38. These brave men will live forever in my memories.

As President Clinton walked down the pathway at the Memorial Wall, I thought to myself, "Mr. President, those names on the wall cannot talk back to you as those of us who served and saw the life blood of those young men gave for their country". David, I let a little out today, I am sure you understand the feelings.

Donald K. Winter
1SG, USA [Ret]

Ed Comment: As one 1SG to another 1SG I sure do understand. My heart was always in my throat as I saw brave young MP's depart the main gate at Chu Lai to protect convoys that brought supplies to you guys in the bush, who were the true heroes. We lost men too in combat. Like the men on the ground in the 8th Air Force in England in WW II, we would count the V-100's, the Jeeps, and Choppers, as the guys came back, sometimes unharmed, sometimes bloody and shot up. Only those of us who were in 'Nam can ever begin to understand the stupidity of that war, and the politicians waste of young American lives, while holding back a professional army that could have whipped the VC and NVA hands down, if Washington let the Generals fight with their troops. I too was once a proud warrior. Today, as an older, wiser, and experienced warrior, I can see why our lads took it so hard. I was "horrified" at the reception given to President Clinton by the veterans at the Wall ceremony, but I can understand and feel why they felt they were right in doing what they did by booing him and turning their backs. He is, nevertheless, by popular vote of the people, our Commander-In-Chief of all armed forces. We could have treated him better. Thanks for sharing "Top"...

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

L.J. Fischer

Mar 20, 1993

Freshwater 4870
Queensland, Australia

To whom it may concern:

By way of introduction, I am an Australian Soldier. I served with the Australian 7th Infantry Battalion in Vietnam in 1967-1968 and 1970-1971.

For the last couple of years, I have been doing some research into that conflict and I am seeking information on the infantry battalions, armored and artillery units within your division.

Would it be possible for you to supply me with the unit designations, mottos, and/or nicknames of your division? Example: 173rd Brigade "Sky Soldiers" 2/503 "We Try Harder".

Also, could you supply the names of any books dealing with the exploits of these units, including major operations, awards, and medals?

Yours Sincerely,

L. Fischer.

Ed comment: "Whew"! What a tall order. Can anyone help?

WANTED: Information on veteran reunions, meetings or job fairs. We will print it. Allow for time frame of publication newsletter.



VIETNAM

NEWS

NETWORK

A DESIRE TO SERVE

by that court and Department of Veterans Affairs. You might recall, I printed an article on that fact in a previous newsletter and our National Commander wrote a letter to his State Representative, and we printed his reply.

I asked individual members write their congressmen and Senators, and to please send me a copy of the letter. I have yet to receive one single letter from anyone in support of this crusade, and it leaves me wondering "why"?

I would like to again ask all of you Americal veterans to please take the time to write such a letter to your congressman and senator and to ask them to introduce and support legislation to lift the non-recognition ban on veterans to the court of appeals of the veterans administration so complicated claims can be received and acted upon by that court without a tremendous personal expense. It's my belief that a veterans constitutional right to justice has been infringed upon by congress and that it is a wrong that must be righted.

We are really, "our brothers keepers" and I know that each of you, if the need arose, would welcome some veterans coming forward to help you establish a claim.

Don't give up. I am an example that something can be done, if one will but be persistent in their quest. Truth cannot be denied, and truth will crumble any wall or barrier.

Please give this suggestion your consideration, and act accordingly.

Thank-you.

Dave Recob, Vietnam Editor



PHOTO'S FROM WASH, D.C. - NOV 1992

Thanks to Jerry O'Conner, to the right are a few photo's of the Americal vets who marched in Wash, D.C. Ron Ward and Rollie Castranova who are Past National Commanders are evident. We like these photo's and ask for them always. Ed.



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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:

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State:

Zip:

Americal Unit Rgt.

Bn.

Co/Bty.

Other

Dates of Service — From:

To:

Serial No.:

Date of Birth:

Blood Type:

Religion:

V. A. Claim No.:

V. A. Office — City:

State:

Occupation:

Wife's First Name:

Date:

Signature:

Sponsored by:

(NOTE: Please Enclose Initial Dues) \$16.00

PLEASE: Attach a copy of the following information to your application.

1. DD 214 Form.

2. Officer's or Enlisted Report of Service and Honorable Discharge.

(All copies of records will be returned)