

★ GUADALCANAL

★ NORTHERN SOLOMONS

★ LEYTE

★ SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

★ VIETNAM



FOUNDED 1945

AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

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

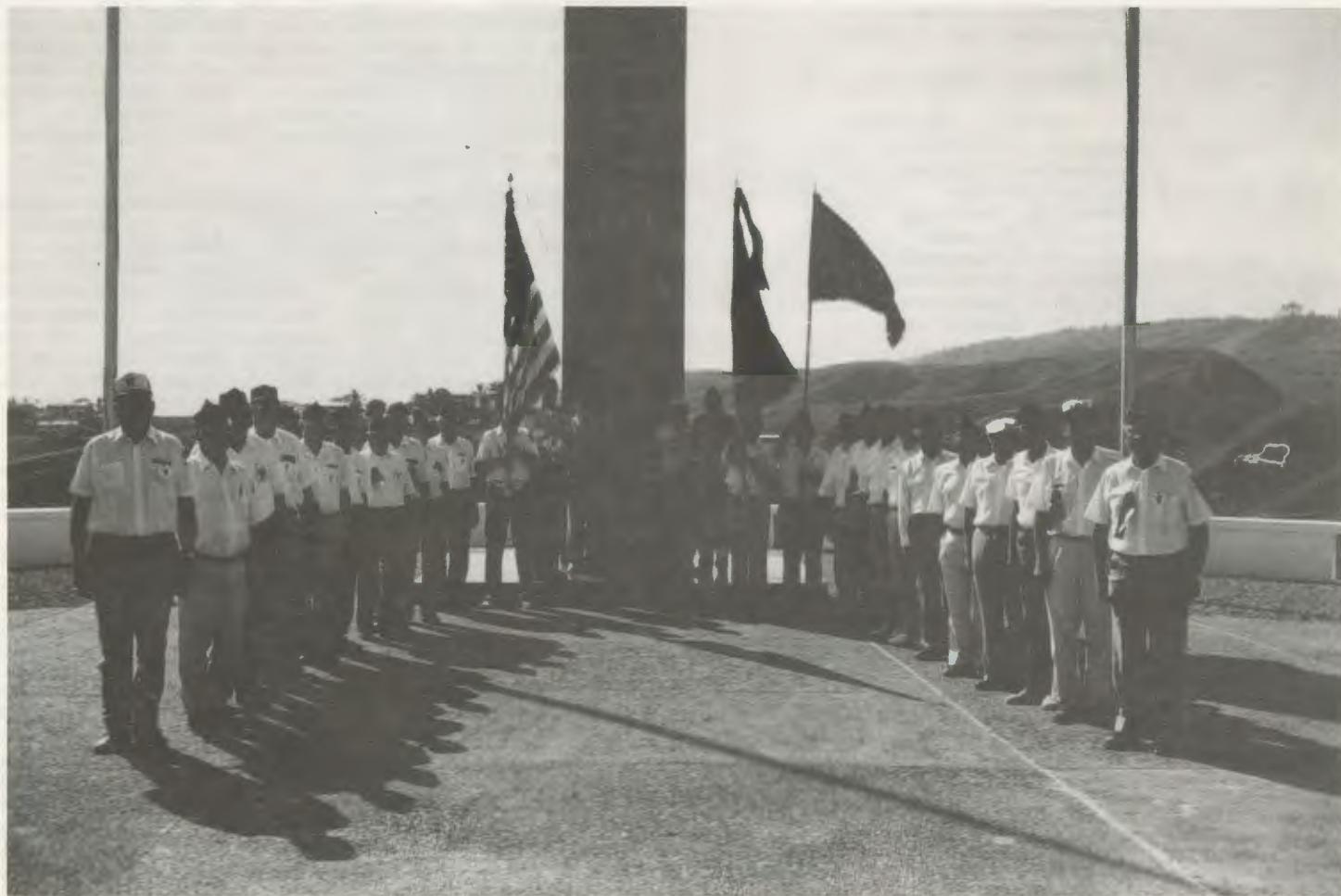
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: JAMES C. BUCKLE
VIETNAM EDITOR: DAVID L. RECOB

MARCH - APRIL 1993

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

GUADALCANAL 1992



164 INFANTRY REGIMENT

1992 NATIONAL OFFICERS 1993

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

NATIONAL COMMANDER

Peter J. Messina
[REDACTED]
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

John H. DeGroot
[REDACTED]
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

William K. Maddox
[REDACTED]
Portland, TX 78374

NATIONAL FINANCE OFFICER

Joseph B. Chin
[REDACTED]
Lincoln, MA 01773

NATIONAL ADJUTANT

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

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

James C. Buckle - Chairman
Roland T. Castronova
Kenneth R. Turner
Leo Ciccolo
Robert N. Thornton
Alfred R. Doig
Bernard J. Carroll
Hugh J. Murnaghan
Joseph A. Anderson
Daniel P. Ramsey Jr.
John V. Nightingale

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
[REDACTED]
Wakefield, MA 01880

Telephone [REDACTED]

VIETNAM EDITOR

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

Telephone [REDACTED]

At the end of January I received word that the United States Army Pacific in conjunction with the U.S. Embassy were going to have a 50th anniversary commemorative ceremony at Port Vila, capital of the Republic of Vanuata (formerly the New Hebrides) on 5-6 March 1993. Part of the 182nd Infantry was stationed there. Since the information came too late for the Newsletter only a few of the old members were notified to see if any wanted to go. The army wanted a Medal of Honor recipient to attend as their guest. I recommended S/Sgt Jessie R. Drowley, who received his award for action on Bougainville. Since then I received a very nice letter from Kathleen, Jessie's wife, telling me that he has been in the hospital three times for surgery and just doesn't feel up to the long trip by himself. One of the men who served at Port Vila is our Finance Officer, Joseph B. Chin. He served directly under BG William I. Rose. He is only one of about a dozen men from Companies L and M of the 182nd still around. I'm sure he would have enjoyed a trip to New Hebrides for the ceremony if they had given us sufficient advance notice.

Our scholarship fund is picking up speed and we will be able to award one scholarship of \$500 this June. Those of you who have children or grandchildren eligible for the award should write for an application as soon as possible since this completed forms must be returned and received by May 1st. To receive your application and instructions please write to Ronald L. Ward, Scholarship Fund Chairman, 9619 Dana Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63123.

Donations for the Scholarship Fund are coming in slowly but nicely. I would like to suggest that everyone start collecting coins in a jar or can for this purpose. Then take the jar full of coins to your local bank. They will run it in their machine and tell you how much you have. Deposit this amount in your checking account and send a check to the Scholarship Fund. You will be surprised how quickly the fund will grow. Thanks to all who have sent in a contribution.

Soon you will be receiving a ballot to elect new officers and a change in the By-Law. Please do your civic duty and return the ballot as soon as possible. It is important that everyone votes.

During the years there has always been a long waiting list to be accepted at the U.S. Soldiers' and Airman's Home at our Nation's Capitol. The thriving community that offers Army veterans a haven of retreat does not have a waiting list at this time. Membership is for veterans from the Armed Services whose active-duty service was at least 50 percent enlisted or warrant officer and who are: retirees at least 60 years of age; veterans unable to earn a livelihood due to service-connected liability; veterans unable to earn a livelihood due to non-service connected disability and who served in a war theater. Should you be eligible and interested, or know someone that would be interested, call 1-800-422-9988 or write: Admissions Office, USSAH, Washington, DC 20317 for additional information.

By the time you receive this newsletter the dreariness of Winter should be gone and the cheerfulness of Spring be all around us. May you and your family observe Easter or Passover full of health and happiness. See you in Topeka!

Peter Messina
National Commander

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

MONTHLY A.D.V.A. MEETINGS

March 1993
NO MEETING

April 10, 1993
American Museum Fort Devens, MA
General Meeting 1:00 P.M.

May 15, 1993
American Museum Fort Devens, MA
General Meeting 10:00 A.M.

TAPS TAPS TAPS

Frank E. Brady
132 Infantry Co. K
Rockwood, IL
January 14, 1993

William Covan
147 Infantry
Sagamore Hills, CA
January 5, 1993

Walter S. Dunn
221 FA
Lowell, MA
January 9, 1993

Edward Dunne
132 Infantry Co. K
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
December 18, 1992

Francis H. Gilbert
182 Infantry
York, PA
December 18, 1992

John C. Gramstorff
182 Infantry
Farnsworth, TX
February 13, 1993

William G. MacLoon
26 Sig
Denton, TX
December 23, 1992

Thomas F. Marshall
492 QM
Hudson, NY
February 29, 1992

Eldridge Roddy
182 Infantry
Wilburton, OK
October 28, 1992

Louis J. Sylvester
423 QM
Nashua, NH
September 30, 1992

Martti Takki
101 Med Band
South Dennis, MA
March 7, 1993

Woodson C. Tucker
Div Hdq
San Antonio, TX
December 24, 1992

CONVALESCING

121 MEDICAL BATTALION

Anthony J. Deyeso
45 Brackett St.
[REDACTED]

Quincy, MA 02169

101 MEDICAL BATTALION

Paul E. Bernard
30 Liberty Way
[REDACTED]

Palm Harbor, FL 34684

101 MEDICAL BN. CO. H

George Lakey
Powers Retirement Complex
[REDACTED]

Petersburg, VA 23803

132 Infantry Anti-Tank

Thompson A. Knott
Selma, CA 93662

SICK CALL

198 L. I. BRIGADE
Ltc. Elbert Fuller Jr.
[REDACTED]

Alexandria, VA 22306

HQ. BTRY DIV ARTY
Lou & Lillian Kapit
[REDACTED]

Margate, FL 33063

1931 NL454402

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Robert J. Behm
198 LIB C/1/6 Inf
Pine Grove, PA

Gerald T. Borysiak
196 LIB B/2/1 Inf
Hudsonville, MI

Warren M. Bushong
247 F.A. Ser Btry
Lancaster, PA

David A. Chrystal
23 M.P.
Centralia, MO

Kenrick A. Claflin
26 Sig
Northboro, MA

Alpheus R. Clark
Vietnam
Punta Gorda, FL

Clyde E. Cogswell
198 LIB 9 Support
Jessup, MD

Gabriel Colangelo
101 Med Bn
Swampscott, MA

Frank J. Cox
11 LIB
Chantilly, VA

Frank D. Dempsey
164 Infantry
Cicero, IL

Melvin DiMassino
198 LIB
South Williamsport,

Raymond G. Fox
198 LIB A/1/6 Inf
Marshall, MN

Joe Gravens Jr.
196 LIB A/4/31 Inf
Cambridge, OH

Irbe E. Hanson
247 FA
Niles, IL

Sheridan E. Lightner
11 Arty C/6 Bn
Wasilla, AK

Larry W. Marcum
198 LIB A/1/52 Inf
Martinsburg, WV

William A. McMurtry
198 LIB B/1/6 Inf
Grapevine, TX

Edward C. Prytko
198 LIB +HQ 23 Div
Newington, CT

James A. Rains
164 Infantry
Orchard Park, NY

Roy W. Sargent
198 LIB E/1/6/Inf
Penfield, NY

Craig R. Singer
198 LIB Co. A 1/6
Kersey, PA

Dan Smith
123 Avn HHC-C/1 Cav
Spartanburg, SC

David E. Tazzara
11 LIB
Winsted, CT

Robert P. Thomason
23 Adm
Cedarbrook, NJ

Edward Woods
101 Med Bn
Hyde Park, MA

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

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

NEW MEMBERS

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

Jeff Dombroff
14 Com Avn Bn HHC
Warrenton, VA
#Verner N. Pike

James A. Fischer
196 LIB 3/82 Arty
Chicago, IL
#Ernest R. Huerta

James L. Gueltzon
11 LIB D/4/21 Inf
Westerly, RI
#R. Castranova

Joel D. Lawing
11 LIB D/1/3/Inf
Charlotte, NC
#Gene Wilson

Bernard T. McCabe
247 F.A. Hq Btry
Needham, MA
#Al Doig

Michael Moehrke
198 Med Plat HHC
Tueras, NM
#Joe Feeler - Jay

Gerald J. O'Connor
198 LIB HHC 1/6/Inf
St. Petersburg, FL
#Ron Ward

Brent M. Smith
198 LIB 265 MP Plt
Ogden, UT
#Self

Dale C. Stewart
132 Infantry A-K Co
Waterville, KS
#Dave Recob

James E. Strackbein
16 Arty A/3/16 HHS
Fredericksburg, TX
#Ernest Carlson

Charles A. Walraven
198 LIB C/D/1/52/Inf
Calvert City, KY
#R. Gordon Williams

Richard W. Yarbrough
23 M.P.
Fremont, NC
#Larry Gelnett

Robert W. Zimmerman
198 LIB C/1/6 Inf
Columbus, OH
#David W. Taylor

HOW ABOUT SENDING A CARD TO AN AILING COMRADE

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Dantzler E. Smith Jr.
In Memory Of
Corp. John D. Bass

Jessica T. Chase
In Memory Of
Ernest L. Chase

Sarah Dunn
In Memory Of
Walter S. Dunn

John A. Martin

William E. McCormick
In Memory Of
Ltc. Francis Gilbert

Elizabeth E. Mischler
In Memory Of
Ltc. Francis C. Mischler

Carolyn Todd
In Memory Of
Warren Todd

National Commander Peter Messina and Julie

William E. McCormick

PNC Roland Castranova
In Memory Of
James Abraham

LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN ADVA

40 or under.....\$125 Payments -5*
41 to 60.....\$100 Payments -4*
61 to 70.....\$ 75 Payments -3*
71 or over.....\$ 50 Payments -2*

*Note: Payments of \$25 in 6 month intervals.
Any member who has paid his dues in advance
will receive credit toward LIFE MEMBERSHIP.

Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Age _____

SEND TO
Bernard C. Chase
National Adjutant ADVA
[REDACTED]

South Yarmouth, MA 02664

ATTENTION

PLEASE NOTE THE TIME OF THE MAY 15, 1993 MEETING

IT IS 10:00 A.M.

PLEASE BRING YOUR LUNCH AND STAY AND HELP COUNT
THE BALLOTS

LADIES INVITED

CHAPTERS

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

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

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

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

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

Regional Commander
Rush G. Propper
[REDACTED] Swartz Creek, MI 48473

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

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

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

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

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

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

CENTRAL MID WEST CHAPTER
IA KS MO NE ND SD

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

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

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

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

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT
ROLAND T. CASTRONOVA
[REDACTED] PEABODY, MA 01960

CHAPTER NEWS
CENTRAL MID-WEST CHAPTER
Dave Recob, Secretary
IA, KS, MO, NE, ND, SD

Its DUES TIME again guys. Please send in your
\$5.00 Checks made payable to David L. Recob, so we
can continue serving the needs of our Chapter by
communicating as needed.

The 1993 Reunion hosted by the Chapter is at full
steam.

I am putting out the invitation for local guys to
come forward in June 24-27, 1993, to help me
welcome the attendees to Topeka and our Reunion.

I specifically need a Man to run the Registration
Desk. A Man to stand in the lobby and welcome our
folk's to the Motel, and to point the way to the
front desk to sign-in, then direct them to the
ADVA desk. I need another Man to issue out
Tickets and Packets and Gifts, to assist the Man
at the Registration Desk.

I have LTC Gary Allen in mind, CSM Jim Trepoy in
mind, and SGT Bob Crews of Kansas City in mind...
I am extending this invitation to them via the
Newsletter. These three guys are great guys and
have a sense of humor as I do. Trepoy was Gary's
"Top Sgt" in Vietnam, of which a book has been
written about. Guy's - I really need you. I have
done all the physical labor and detailing, now - I
need you to supervise the areas I mentioned during
the Reunion. I plan to have some help for you in
the form of Job's daughters and DeMolay for boys,
to run errands and labor tasks. I need your eyes
and executive abilities. The Kids ar Masonic
kids.

If anyone else in Central Mid-West Chapter wants
to get involved, call me up or write to me.

We are going to have "beaucoup" fun in 1993 here
in T-Town.

We of the Central Mid-West Chapter are going to
show those guys back East how to organize a
Reunion and put on a great Convention.

Don't forget to send your 1993 dues to David L.
Recob, 1242 SW 31st St., Topeka, KS 66611-2132
made payable to David L. Recob. Thanks.

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

CHAPTER NEWS

SOUTH MID WEST CHAPTER

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

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

For some reason my phone number came out wrong in the last Newsletter (Ed-my fault) but the above one is correct.

Our Chapter was was saddened to learn of the death of Ltc. Lewis Doyle and Woodson C. Tucker, two of our Chapter members. Our condolences to their survivors.

We now have Chapter membership cards for all good buddies that pay their dues of \$3.00 per year. Send those dues in now before your spend it on meaningless things like, income tax, vacations, weddings and so on!!!

I read in the V.F.W. Magazine that the Liberty Ship, General George O. Squier was having a reunion in September. She was built in 1943 and was the ship that I went overseas on, that October. I called and talked to Don Meisinger, who was one of the original crew members. He sent me a copy of the ship's log. Since that trip across to New Caledonia was it's shakedown cruise, details of the trip were not entered in the history of the ship! The second day out of San Francisco, they test fired two of the five inch guns off the stern. This opened up two of the welded seams in the stern below the water line!!! With knee deep water sloshing around in the lower deck, we earned the distinction of being the only troops to wade across the Pacific Ocean!!!

Albert Mobley D Co. 182 Infantry was also on this ship. He is a member of the ADVA and lives in Texas also.

What is the point of this? The point is, is that organizations like ours are formed for things like this. We all have memories, good as well as bad! I urge everyone that is eligible, to keep up with what is going on with your Chapter etc. Everyone who is in any way able, should go to ANY get-together and enjoy your friendships!!

I still need to hear any suggestions from Chapter members, if you want a meeting this year. I would like to have a meeting later on this year while the weather is good.

If you have any memorabilia from the war in the Pacific, World War II, and would like to donate it to the Admiral Nimitz Museum here in Fredericksburg, TX, they are adding exhibits from that era. Also they are having something each year to commemorate the Pacific War on the anniversary of the happening. Either notify me or the Museum at--Admiral Nimitz Foundation, 340 E. Main St. [REDACTED], Fredericksburg, TX 78624.

This is a good time for all Pacific War Veterans to get some of the credit we deserve!!

Ernest B. Carlson
Chapter Commander

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER

IT NEEDS YOU!

NORTH WEST CHAPTER

ALASKA, WASHINGTON, OREGON, IDAHO,
MONTANA, WYOMING

Lloyd Morrell
Redmond, OR 97756
Tel. [REDACTED]

Denis R. Bourcier
Kirkland, WA 98033
Tel. [REDACTED]

Still making plans for a May meeting to get all members together and elect some officers for the Chapter and to discuss plans of the National Reunion in 1995, if the Executive Council accepts the invitation. Having been involved in these excises before, two years is not an excessive amount of time to get ready. There is a lot of work involved and will require a combined effort of the Northwest members to make it successful. We would also need to discuss what activities and locations and frequency of Chapter get-togethers for the future. I will send out individual notices on the May meeting as soon as I have the information on where and when. I am trying to arrange a Fort Lewis location, possibly the NCO Club.

I will be going to New Orleans in June and expect to stop off in Topeka for the 1993 Reunion, either on the way or on my return. I hope to get some ideas from the reunion committee that will compliment our plans, so as to make a Seattle reunion one to be remembered.

Lloyd Morrell
Chapter Commander

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

Dont' forget our Spring meeting at Daytona Beach in April.

Contact:

PERRY'S OCEAN SIDE RESORT
[REDACTED]
Daytona Beach, FL 32118

Calling from out of State [REDACTED]
Calling from Florida [REDACTED]

Our rate is: \$165.00 for April 23 - 24 - 25 - 1993
\$75.00 Deposit to hold room. (ASAP)
Be sure to mention AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSN.

Reservation includes: Evening Dinners
Homemade Doughnuts and coffee each morning

Elmer E. Matola, Secretary-Treasurer
[REDACTED]
Hernando, FL 34442
Tel. [REDACTED]

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

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

DC DE MD KY NJ NY OH PA VA WV

I would like to start out by saying that every chapter member should be aware by now that our 1993 reunion will be held in Buffalo, New York. A meeting has been arranged by Jim Rains, reunion chairman, and Commander Steve Dennison for February 27, 1993 to discuss the final plans for Buffalo. Please read further newsletters for details and plans.

I take this opportunity to thank all the members who have sent in their dues, and I send out a special than you for the donations you sent. For those who have not remembered to send in their dues, please do so now.

Again, any member wishing to run for one of the three elected positions can contact Pete Messina or myself. At the present time we are on a serious hunt for a Secretary/Treasurer.

**** FLASH ****

The 1994 National Reunion will be held in South Fallsburgh, New York at the Pines Resort Hotel and Conference Center located in the Catskills of New York - the training site for the present heavyweight boxing champion - Riddick Bowe.

Watch the Newsletter for more details.

Steve Dennison
Chapter Commander

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

We now have 101 members in the Far West Chapter. I received a letter from Bernie Chase, the National Chapter Coordinator, that we now rank second in number of members in comparison with the other Chapters. With a little extra effort we should be the largest with in a year or so.

Chapter Commander
Joe D. Feeler

THANK YOU THANK YOU

I wish to thank my many friends for the cards and telephone calls that I received during my recent illness. It is nice to know that you are remembered and that there are caring people in the Americal Division Veterans Association.

PNC Sam Ravagno

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

REUNIONS

AMERICAL DIVISION FIELD ARTILLERY

Raddison Hotel--Asheville, NC
May 13-15, 1993

For more information contact:

E.R. Horton
Rt. [REDACTED]
Timberlake, NC 27583-9574

COMPANY H 182 INFANTRY

Members of Company H 182 Infantry are planning their 52nd Reunion this Spring. All those who are interested please contact, as soon as possible, either:

John Groppi [REDACTED] Fred Zolino
Dorchester, MA 02125 Everett, MA 02149

101st & 121st MEDIC REUNION
- INFORMATION REQUIRED -

Your cooperation is required so that we may plan the followomg two everts.

1. Are you interested in an August 1993 Luncheon?

Yes No

Date and time will be arnounced later.

2. 4th Annual Medic Reunion

WHEN: October 17, 18, 19, 20 - 1993

WHERE: Red Jacket Beach
So. Yarmouth, Cape Cod, MA

COST: Double- \$377.13 Single - \$317.13
(Subject to change)

Includes (3) breakfasts
(3) dinners

PLEASE contact either Co-Chairman by mail or telephone. At the present time we have requests from Medics and non-Medics. - Everyone is welcome.

Yes No

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TEL. # _____

Bill S. Coronella [REDACTED] Bill Dunphy
Somerville, MA 02114 West Roxbury, MA 02132

You will be contacted at a later date with detailed information.

43 INFANTRY DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION

September 10, 11, 12, 1993
Providence, RI

Contact: Howard F. Brown
[REDACTED]
E. Greenwich, RI 02818



REUNIONS

YANKEE DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION

The Cape Codder Hotel
Hyannis, MA
June 9-14, 1993

For information contact:

PNC Doald L. Abbott
[REDACTED]
Peabody, MA 01960
Tel. [REDACTED]

COMPANY F 182 INFANTRY
2nd BATTION HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

April 25, 1993
Cottage Crest - Waltham, MA

For complete information contact:

William Vinci
[REDACTED]
Medford, MA 02155

COMPANY E 182 INFANTRY
Kernwood - Lynnfield

May 1993

This will be a luncheon held on a week day.

For complete information contact:

Jim Buckle
[REDACTED]
Wakefield, MA 01880

DO YOU KNOW THIS MAN?

COMPANY B 57 COMBAT ENGINEERS BATTALION

James O. Murphy would like to contact anyone that knew his father in the 57th Combat Engineers.

Cpl. Kilby T. Murphy 34827044

If you knew or served with this man, or if you could give his son any leads as to where to check, please write to:

James O. Murphy
[REDACTED]
Winchester, VA 22602

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The following dates are the deadlines for the 1993 AMERICAL NEWSLETTER.

May	- June	May 1, 1993
July	- August	July 1, 1993
September - October		Sept 1, 1993

To have that important message out on time please observe these deadlines.

HAVE YOU CALLED THAT BUDDY YET?



Greeting to our compatriots in the ADVA! YES! The 182d Infantry Association is back. Thanks to "Jim" Buckle, we will again be reporting in The Americal Newsletter. So, here goes!

Our annual election of officers, for 1993, was held in October 1992. Installation took place at The American Legion Post 61 Hall in Revere on January 30th, 1993.

Our 1993 slate is PC Ronald V. Gibbons Sr. of Chelsea (Commander); Joseph T. Jackson of Melrose (Vice Commander); Warren J. Zannino of Malden (First Vice Commander); PC Donald N. Horsman of Saugus (Finance Officer); Robert A. Cox of Arlington (Adjutant); David I. Westerman of Malden (Trustee, 1-year); John D. Malenshini of Melrose (Trustee, 2-years); Walter M. Russ of Malden (Trustee, 3-years); PC William R. Duke of Melrose and PC Douglas F. Tarbox of Everett (Executive Council Members); PC Charles L. Doyle of Revere (Chairman, Executive Council).

We recognize a fine turnout of 182d Infantry people at the "Home Coming - 1942-1992" to New Caledonia and Guadalcanal in August 1992. Of the 22-folks making the trip, eight (8) were 182d Infantry Regiment Veterans. (COE - 1)(COF - 1)(COH - 5)(MED DET - 1). Our Jim Buckle (and his wife Fran); plus Bill McCormack, both current members of our 182d Association, gave us some credence by attending. Thanks folks! We appreciate!

Special invitation to all former members of The 182d Infantry. Did you folks in the ADVA know there is an association carrying on the history and traditions of The Old North Regiment (182d Infantry)? Well there is! We are it! If you ever served in The 182d Infantry, and are not now a member of our Association, drop us a line. Send your name and address to PC Charles L. Doyle, 25 Taft Street, Revere, MA 02151. By return mail you will receive some literature about our Association; plus how you may join our ranks.

In the January-February 1993 Americal newsletter we note that a few of our 182d Association people hold key positions in ADVA. We send our best regards to Joseph B. Chin of Lincoln, MA (National Finance Officer); William K. Maddox of Portland, TX (Junior Vice Commander); Everett B. Carlson of Fredericksburg, TX (Chapter Commander of South-Mid West Chapter); and James Buckle of Wakefield, MA (Chairman, Executive Council; plus Editor-in-chief, Americal newsletter). May your tours be pleasant ones.

IN MEMORIUM: We regret to announce passing of Life Member (Col-Ret) Lewis W. Doyle of San Antonio, Texas. RIP comrade!

SICK LIST: PC Joseph J. Cirino; PC Herbert E. Watson; John and Claire Malenchini; and Ruth Duke.

Charles L. Doyle

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

72 FIELD ARTILLERY HQ & HQ BATTERY
AMERICAL DIVISION ARTILLERY HQ & HQ BATTERY

We, the veterans of the above, were a good family in the service. A good family works together for the benefit of all members..such were we..However, after the war we became a family divided. Many of us were born into a family of the 72 FA at Fort Bragg, NC.. We changed our name, but not our unity, in New Caledonia where we became part of the great new Americal Division---Charter Members. (I, too am proud of the patch on General Powell's shoulder). We matured during that war. In the post-war years our family association, in most cases, began to diminish in our search for our own self and involvement in individual family lives.

I, like Earl Cook of the 26th Signal Company, (neighbors of our on Guadalcanal), have been working on a quest to re-unite members of our family who may be available for contact and to learn of those who may have departed.

For many years I felt like an orphan and then a number of years ago I did join the ADVA--then GCV. I sent in a letter or two, became a pen pal of Bill Mc's and his "Cannoneer's Posts" and wrote a letter or two there--this man can make a snail get up and run! I do ask forgiveness for not being an active member of the growing Eastern Chapter. The excuses are valid but I expect to be a dues paying member.

Five years ago I saw Lou Kapit's name and address in the Americal Newsletter. Lou was important to me when I was a Buck Private. We began to correspond. Then Steve Nichols wrote a letter to the Newsletter about our trip on the U.S.S. Uruguay and another close family member and I began to correspond---and so on and so on. Joe Evans saw an article of mine in the Canoneer's Post and we kept in touch until his death. Same with Roger D.. Surprise, surprise, 1991--Christmas week---John Cincotta and his wife dropped by for a visit. We had not seen each other since Bougainville. More contacts were made during the year. This Christmas 1992, another surprise. I received a letter from my Battery Commander W.H. Stone. He saw my picture in the "Guadalcanal 50th Anniversary". I had seen his in the same book. I called via telephone and we talked and talked. It was like going home. We have exchanged letters and a few pictures and I told him I had been working on a roster, 1941-1944, compiled from memory. I was his Battery clerk for a short time on Fiji. Steve Nichols furnished me with a list of addresses he had compiled thru the years. These bits of raw material with other new addresses I had accumulated in the past four years of correspondence gave me a place to start. 100 cards, address correction requested, with a personal message have been mailed this week. All confirmed addresses, confirmed and returned, will be personally answered by our former Battery Commander W.H. Stone. Chet Holloway was our BC prior to the forming of the Americal. Today another letter--from Bob Burns in Texas--no contact since 1943--and the chain of letters go on. Unfortunately we have 12 confirmed deaths at this date. I am afraid that figure will grow much higher as the information come in. After all, most of us are in our 70's and 80's--but as the saying goes--we can hope.

After the war, Jack married a girl from Oklahoma and established a large farm to grow wheat. It was located in the upper right hand corner of the Texas panhandle, just a few miles from the Oklahoma border.

I corresponded with Jack Gramstorff for many years after the war to keep him up-to-date on the happenings of the men of the old National Guard Company M as well as the first group of selectees assigned to it. In the Fall of 1985, while I worked as an electrical engineer on a nuclear power plant under construction in the middle of Texas, I had a chance to visit Jack and his wife Jeanne. The forty-odd trees around their home were the only signs of greenery for miles around in that flat country.

It is with much personal sadness to learn of the loss of a dear friend and comrade of over half a century, John C. Gramstorff. He will be remembered and missed by many.

Joseph B. Chin
National Finance Officer

family members who were helping me died this year. Both had gone all the way to Japan. Joe Evans had gone from Bragg to Japan as others have. Consequently, members who joined our family after 1944 may not be on the list. I have 29 names with no lead at all, but I'll keep working and with new help, maybe, just maybe, we can have another reveille roll-call before the final taps.

Too many buddies are going to the grave thinking they are forgotten by those with whom they served. Too many stories, revealing, disastrous, historic, humorous, loving, and what have you, are going into the ground without being shared. Some of you have been working very hard to awaken us. Our minds seem to be slowing down as well as our bodies---can THE OLD GUARD be going to sleep too early?

SAY HELLO TO AN OLD BUDDY BEFORE ITS TOO LATE
TOO EVEN SAY --- "GOODBYE"

P.S. Any help from anyone will be greatly appreciated---PLEASE!

Charles W. Young Jr.
[REDACTED]
Trenton, NJ 08619
Tel. [REDACTED]

JOHN C. GRAMSTORFF COMPANY M 182 INFANTRY

It is sad for me to report the passing of John C. Gramstorff on February 13, 1993, at the age of 71 years.

Jack Gramstorff and I are comrades from 52 years ago when we enlisted weeks apart into Company M 182nd Infantry Regiment, Massachusetts National Guard, at their Everett, MA Armory. This was during the depth of the depression in 1940 and the \$1 a drill night was a lot of money for us then. Our uniform were the campaign hat, woolen shirt, spiral woolen leggings, and laced hightop shoes, all of World War I vintage.

There were four Gramstorffs in Company M at the time of Federalization in January of 1941: three brothers - 1st Lt. Theodore, 2nd Lt. Herman, Corporal Samuel, and their nephew, John

After the war, Jack married a girl from Oklahoma and established a large farm to grow wheat. It was located in the upper right hand corner of the Texas panhandle, just a few miles from the Oklahoma border.

I corresponded with Jack Gramstorff for many years after the war to keep him up-to-date on the happenings of the men of the old National Guard Company M as well as the first group of selectees assigned to it. In the Fall of 1985, while I worked as an electrical engineer on a nuclear power plant under construction in the middle of Texas, I had a chance to visit Jack and his wife Jeanne. The forty-odd trees around their home were the only signs of greenery for miles around in that flat country.

It is with much personal sadness to learn of the loss of a dear friend and comrade of over half a century, John C. Gramstorff. He will be remembered and missed by many.

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD



50 YEARS - THINK BACK!

The above picture was first published in Life Magazine in early 1943 and I still have a copy in my file. Herb O'Brien called me and told me about the picture being on the DAV front cover and sent me a copy to see if I could identify any of the soldiers. We agreed that it was the 101st Medical Regiment - Hospital Clearing Company "H" of the Americal Division. A few days later Hy Forman called and also told me about the picture and asked if I knew any of the soldiers. Now we knew it was the 101st Medical Regiment, Company "H", but could not place a name to all the faces. We recognized five or six. A week later Al Cotta sent this letter:

January 17, 1993

Dear Bill:

I've enclosed the cover of a DAV Magazine. You and others of the Americal Division may have seen the issue.

The photo looks very familiar. I've racked my memory bank and believe it is a photo of the patients and personnel at the D Company hospital. Unless I'm mistaken, the soldier in the white T-shirt standing behind the patient with the bandage on his chin and forehead is Domenic Palermo of D Company, 121 Medical Battalion.

Although the soldier sitting down with the crutches looks familiar to me I cannot identify him. However, there are two men standing behind him, the one in front may be a member of D Company - I cannot identify him - but the one behind him (also standing) is Julius Gordon, also from D Company.

Am I correct or am I letting my nostalgic imagination distort my memory, influenced by the caption on the photo, "December 1942 Guadalcanal, wounded GI's receive a visit from Santa"?

See you in Topeka and South Yarmouth.

Al Cotta

Jerry Curtin recognized one soldier and knew his name but Jerry is in Florida so that will have to await his return home. Also Henry Doherty, Everett Roper and Bill Coronella could not help out but left them racking the old memory.

If anyone can place a name with a face please write me at home or call me and when I have enough information I will publish same in the ADVA Newsletter.

It should be noted that the 101st Medical Regiment was redesignated the 121 Medical Battalion and Company "H" became Company "D" after we arrived on the Fiji Islands in 1943.

William L. Dunphy

[REDACTED]
West Roxbury, MA 02132

PLEASE NOTE I wrote to the Editor of the DAV Magazine "LOUD & CLEAR" to tell them it was the 101st Medical Regiment Co. "H" Hospital Clearing Company, Americal Division stationed at Guadalcanal. Hope they print the information.

ATTENTION

At the present time a number of us are putting together a plaque honoring the war correspondents that covered the Guadalcanal Campaign, the Central Solomons, and at Bougainville.

It is our belief that they informed the world of the valor and courage of the Americal Division's fighting men. Can you help? Send any information you may have on war correspondents to:

Robert C. Muehrcke, M.D.

[REDACTED]
Harwood Heights, IL 60656-0189

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

CEBU 26 MARCH 1945 CEBU

The following two letters are in answer to a request by Jack Folmer seeking information on the bombardment of Cebu and the landing of Americal troops:

I received a letter from a guy awhile back who's father was on the Cebu landing. He had this information from a book he had run across. When I expressed interest in the story he sent me a copy. Sometimes a person picks up useful information in strange ways.

CEBU (VICTORII) 26 March 1945
TG 78.2 AMPHIBIOUS GROUP 8, CAPTAIN A.T. SPRAGUE
in U.S.C.G.C. SPENCER, Commander Hinnant

Embarking AMERICAL DIVISION, M. G. Wm. H. Arnold

COVERING AND SUPPORT GROUP, Rear Admiral Birkey.
H.M.A.S. Hobart relieving BOISE

APD Unit, Cdr. W.S. Parsons: APD's LLOYD, NEWMAN,
KEPHART, and COFER

LCI Unit, Cdr. W.V. Deutermann: 15 LCI (L)
LSM Unit, Lt. Cdr. G.F. Baker: 11 LSM
LST Unit, Capt. H.B. Hudson: 13 LST; 3 LCT
LST Tractor Unit, Cdr. D.P. Stickley: 4 LST
Support Unit, Cdr. D.H. Ray: 5 LCI (R) 4 LCI (L)
Control Unit, Cdr. J.H. Peterson, USNR: 2 PC
Screen Unit, Capt. F.D. McCorkle: DDs Flusser,
Shaw, Conyngham, Smith, and Drayton
Minesweeping Unit, Lt. G. L. O'Neil USNR: 8 YMS
Beach Party No 5 Lt. M. Williams USNR: LCI(D)-228
lifting one UDT; ATA-179

These are the ships and Officers involved in the Assault Landing on Cebu, P.I. I do not have anything on support fire later. It very well could have been one of the 5 DDs under Capt. McCorkle or possibly the H.M.A.S. Horbart.

Joe Feeler

In answer to Jack Folmer's question as to the name and number of the ship that provided back-up fire for the Americal landing on Cebu, I have come up with the following according to the Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships. The destroyer U.S.S. SMITH (DD-378) was the ship involved.

The DD SMITH bombarded the landing beaches the morning of the assault, March 26, 1945 and after the forces landed the DD SMITH provided them with call fire. Over one eight day period, she expended 1200 rounds of 5 inch ammunition. On 23 April 45 she departed the Philippines.

I actually remember the SMITH doing figure eights in the outer harbor, firing her four five-inch guns, when I (one of three replacements for the 182 Infantry) landed on the morning of 3 April 45.

Does anyone out there have a copy of the combat map that was issued for that operation? They were issued down to platoon level. I would certainly appreciate a copy.

Gil Dempsey

Ed Note: The DD Smith was built at the Mare Island Shipyard and was launched on 2 Feb 36 and was scrapped in 1947.

221 FIELD ARTILLERY 221 FIELD ARTILLERY

While reading the book "Under the Southern Cross", by Captain Francis D. Cronin, I came across the part about a flash flood on the Laruma River at Bougainville. It seems as though two Bay Staters, Sgt. Frederick DeStefano of Somerville and Pvt. Bernard Doucette of North Wilmington, in an act of heroism, were instrumental in the possible prevention of the drowning of some forty comrades in the raging waters.

I too was there at that time with A Battery of the 221 Field Artillery. A member of our Battery, also in an act of heroism saved all the members of our third gun section from possible drowning. After a number of us had tried all means of getting lines across to the stranded gunners with no avail, the section chief of the number two gun, climbed aboard a D-6 Cat and drove it over to the men. He had them hang on the best they could and brought them back to higher ground. This Sgt. was Walter Sweeter from Salem, Massachusetts. As he had made his way over and back across the raging river, the water was at times up over his chest and the Caterpillar almost stalled out several times. Debris such as tree limbs, logs, and anything the water could move was swirling around Walter as well as the men he was aiding.

It's been a long time since all this happened and it's hard for me to remember details so I do not know if Walter Sweeter ever received a decoration for his act of bravery. I do know that it wasn't very long after that that he was evacuated back to the States for an incurable problem--probably cancer. Several of us guys in his section had tried to get him to go to sick call but he kept putting it off saying - "After we got to the next campaign".

We found out later, from his sister in Salem I believe, that he had passed away.

Enclosed is a picture of a War Memorial in Salem, MA on which his name appears. I took this picture in August of 1992. Also enclosed is a check for the Americal Scholarship Fund. It is given in the memory of Walter Sweeter.

Leonard S. Graham

LD WAR II
MERRILL S. STOCKER
ARTHUR J. SWEENEY
WILFRED P. SWEENEY
WALTER SWEETER
EDWARD J. SWinarski
CHARLES R. TARDIFF
ROBERT W. TOMLINSON
PHILIP E. TRASK
OSCAR D. TREMBLAY
PETER J. TURCOTTE
ROGER R. VALLIACOURT

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

WALTER DUNN 221 FIELD ARTILLERY

COMPANY G & I 182 INFANTRY

I am sorry to tell you that Walter died January 9, 1993. I am very thankful that he had a wonderful time at the Christmas party reminiscing with his buddies.

I am enclosing a check to be donated in his memory.

Adj. Note: The check was given to the Americal Scholarship Fund in Walter's memory. Thank you for your generous donation. We of the Americal will miss our comrade, just like you do.

OCCUPATION OF THE NEW HEBRIDES

Company M, 182 Infantry, Massachusetts National Guard, was inducted into Federal service on January 16, 1941 at their Armory in Everett, Mass.

Company M went through training at Camp Edwards, MA; the Carolina Maneuvers; Portland, ME harbor defense beginning two days after Pearl Harbor; was sailed out of Brooklyn, NY six weeks later; crossed the Panama Canal; spent six weeks on a transport to Australia; was billeted in private homes in Ballarat; and then went to New Caledonia.

M Company landed on New Caledonia on March 12, 1942 and five days later on March 17, joined L Company, a Detachment of Service Company, a Detachment of the Medical Detachment of the same Regiment, plus a platoon of B Company, 57th Engineers and formed Force A.

Force A boarded the New Zealand Cruiser, Leander, and sailed north to the New Hebrides. First to Port Vila, Efate, and a month later further up to Espiritu Santos, about 600 miles from the Solomon Islands that were then occupied by the Japanese.

The 500 men in this detachment were under the command of Brig. General William I. Rose, an attorney from Worcester, MA. Later we learned that our small force, Force A, was totally EXPENDABLE.

Since General Rose needed people to look after him, three men from Company M were assigned to these tasks: PFC John Gramstorff as his Jeep driver, PFC George Leaman was his cook, and Pfc Joseph Chin as the General's orderly. We three were lucky because we billeted near the General's quarters while the rest of the troops were scattered around the island in dug-in defensive positions.

In the Fall of 1942 we were only a few hundred yards from the channel when the USS President Cleveland, carrying troops of the 172nd Regiment, Vermont National Guard and the vanguard of the 43 Infantry Division, was sunk by a US mine that had broken loose.

Companies L and M rejoined the Regiment on Guadalcanal in early December, 1942 and remained with it for the remainder of the war.

Joseph B. Chin

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP A NEW MEMBER YET?

It's been 47 years and 8 months since that night bayonet attack on Babag Ridge, April 12, 1945.

Captain John T. Murphy commanding G Company, after orders "To take that hill at all cost", lined his men at the base of Babag Ridge and with elements of the 3rd Bn. 182 Infantry, stormed the hill in a bayonet attack that caught the Japs off guard.

I was a member of I Company, on G Company's left flank. We had fought for three days trying to take this Ridge, but each effort failed and the casualties were great and we always had to pull back as we would run out of ammunition before we got to the assaulting area. We lost many men in trying, but we tried again to accomplish our mission.

On the third day, after fighting all day and into the night, we were at the Japanese trenches but were still not to the point where we could make an effective attack up the hill. The hill was steep, and we were almost out of ammunition again. Then came a call over the radio, "We have to have that hill for tomorrow's operation. Take that hill at all cost". Well, it cost us many casualties in I Company. We had about 15 who were hit as the Japs threw grenades out as fast as snow balls in a snow fight.

We lined up shoulder to shoulder as it was to dark to see and when ordered to go we went forward. I remember Sgt. Sorenson falling at my feet and chewing me out to get up there and line up with the others. It seemed that Pvt. Laturza and I had fallen behind the others in all the excitement. We started up the hill and in came a grenade that hit just in front of my platoon and wounded both of us. In all 15 men from my platoon were hit that night. The remaining men of the Company along with G Company took the hill.

I lay there wounded - hit in the shoulder, nose, arm, neck, and back. A Medic came back and asked me where I was hit. I told him I was tasting blood. He gave me a shot of morphine and I went off to dream land. I did not wake up once to witness the Japs that had circled around behind us and were sticking the dead and wounded with their bayonets. A Jap stumbled over my foot but passed me by. Gilbert Gillespie was killed just before the attack and lay close to me.

Now 47 years and 8 months later I just had three pieces of that shrapnel removed from my nose so that I could breath better. Seems that the partition in my nose was cut and blocking my breathing. After surgery last October, where they removed the shrapnel, and part of the bone, and straightened the partition in my nose, I can now breath much better.

That was a long time ago and since then I have contacted many of the men who went up that hill. I am planning to get some of them together and talk over old times, of the battle of Cebu in 1945. Anyone that was in that attack can contact me at Rt #3 Box 754, Berryville, Arkansas 72616.

Roy E. Poynter 1/Sgt. Ret.
WW II, Korea, Vietnam

(Ray, why not meet your pals from that famous battle at the Americal National Reunion, Topeka, Kansas in June of 1993)?

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

164 INFANTRY 164 INFANTRY

GUADALCANAL REMEMBERED

Visiting Guadalcanal after fifty years was like the reopening of an old wound. The memory of the faces and personalities of our friends who died there returned. The remembrance of the squalor of the place was renewed. Guadalcanal in 1942 was not a tourist attraction. Nor is it today except for old soldiers and history buffs.

We are thankful for the chance to return. We recaptured, in part, the excitement of the frenetic activity: the unforgettable sound of 16 inch Japanese naval fire; the deadly air duels; the drama of the sea battles offshore; the sound of machine gun and rifle fire; the twang of an empty ejecting M-1 clip and the frenzy to reload; the mud and trying to dig a foxhole in the coral rock; the death danger and fear that was always near. All these memories and others returned.

The trip was rewarding and enjoyed. We enjoyed the friendships either renewed or formed. We enjoyed the exchange of stories, most of them true. We gained a better understanding of the total Guadalcanal campaign. We don't know why we survived the battles of 1942. That is a humbling question. The trip will be a memory that will last our lifetime and perhaps be part of the heritage of our families.

(November 1993 issue of the 164th Infantry News)

Ed Note: Twenty eight (28) Guadalcanal veterans of the 164 Infantry returned to Guadalcanal in October to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the landing of that Regiment in 1942. The 164th Infantry was the first United States Army unit to go into offensive action against the Axis in World War II. The Colorado Air National Guard provided the transportation. (Governor Weld of Massachusetts would not even send a representative to accompany the returning members of the 182 Infantry).

164 INFANTRY

There is a piece in the 1993 issue of the "Old Farmer's Almanac" as follows:

"Black Halligan carried an urgent message from the 164 Infantry on Guadalcanal which revealed the position of 300 Japanese troops. He delivered the information despite the fact that he had been wounded in the breast".

Does any one of our members remember this incident?

(Sent in by Bill McLaughlin)

COVER PICTURE

This picture is of the 164 Infantry veterans that returned to Guadalcanal in early October 1993 to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the 1942 landing of the 164 on Guadalcanal. It was taken in front of the Guadalcanal Memorial that was dedicated on August 7, 1992.

Ltc. WOODSON C. TUCKER

DIVISION HEADQUARTERS

It is so sad, my husband Woodson suffered a broken hip in a fall on November 30 and never recovered from surgery that was performed on December 3.

He was in a semi-coma until he died on December 24, 1992.

Mrs. Lovena Tucker

9 STATION HOSPITAL 70 COAST ARTILLERY
925 AAA BATTALION

I shipped overseas on board the Barry with Task Force 6814 and upon our arrival in Melbourne, Australia we slept in the Zoo area. Our first bivouac in New Caledonia was in a cemetery.

The first hospital that we set up was on the school grounds at Piata. From here we moved to St. Vincent and then to the Dumbea River site.

During World War II I took many photographs of people in our hospital area at New Caledonia and through Bougainville from time to time. Some may be of the 112th Cavalry, 97th Pack Artillery and the 1st Marines. I have many pictures of downtown Noumea and the Dumbea River area. Also, many pictures of the Sergi Point area of New Georgia.

I would like to share my pictures with those interested.

Warren R. Hester D.D.S.

San Antonio, TX 78209

P.S. I have some great photos of the Medical Meeting on Green Island.

Ed Note: Colonel, the corrections you requested have been made on your records.

39 MILITARY POLICE

Below is a picture that taken on New Caledonia and was sent in by Arthur Guarante.



Standing L-R: Bill Larch, Arthur Guarante, Gus Manderino. Front L-R: Charles Taylor and bob Lenk



AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL REUNION JUNE 24-27, 1993

HOLIDAY INN WEST HOLIDOME

TOPEKA, KANSAS 66606

TEL: [REDACTED] ASK FOR SALES DEPARTMENT

Welcome to Topeka, Kansas. Topeka is the site of the 1993 and 51st Annual Reunion of the Americal Division of World War II fame and 23rd Infantry Division [Americal] of Vietnam fame.

This Reunion is "Shaping up" to be one of the better reunions in a long time, as far as facilities, entertainment, activities, and sight seeing is concerned. You will enjoy our Kansas hospitality. Topeka, and the location of the reunion, is an excellent place to bring the kids. There is plenty of activities to entertain them.

MOTEL AND FOOD COSTS

Package #1 - Single Rate - 3 Days.

Room Costs @ \$60.00 per day = \$180.00.
Wine & Cheese Party = \$ 20.00.
3 Breakfasts @ \$10.00 each = \$ 30.00.
3 Dinners @ \$20.00 each = \$ 60.00.

\$290.00.

Package #2 - Single Rate - 2 Days.

\$200.00

Double Rate - 3 Days.

\$66.00 per day = \$198.00.
\$20.00 per per = \$ 40.00.
\$30.00 per per = \$ 60.00.
\$60.00 per per = \$120.00.

Total Costs:

\$418.00.

Double Rate - 2 Days.

\$292.00.

There will be a \$15.00 per person registration fee to be paid in advance on the coupon below with tour reservations to be mailed to David L. Recob, 1241 SW 31st St, Topeka, KS 66611-2132. Make checks payable to Reunion 1993 ADVA.

To make reservations, choose the package you want to sign-up for and telephone 1-800-822-0216 and ask for the sales department. Give them your choice of reservation. You will be responsible for that amount on check-out, even if you did not use same. You may cancel a reservation 24 hours in advance without being charged. If you fail to show, you will be charged a minimum of one days lodging and meals. That is to assure the rate packages.

Please wear your Name Badge when participating in all events.

All reservations for rooms and meals must be made prior to June 3, 1993. Anyone making reservations after that date will be by space available only.

Persons staying at another Hotel or Motel who want to participate in Meals, Wine & Cheese Party, must call 1-800-822-0216 and make a reservation. No reservation, no meal. This is a controlled access.

AIR TRAVEL

KING TRAVEL SERVICE, [REDACTED], Topeka, KS 66614, telephone [REDACTED] or FAX [REDACTED] is the OFFICIAL AGENT for travel arrangements to and return from the reunion. Air Transportation will be to Kansas City International Airport and then Bus or Van to Topeka by scheduled pick-up.

Most airlines have discontinued meeting saver fares which offer discounts to attendees of reunions and conventions. However, King Travel has negotiated with CONTINENTAL AIRLINES to offer a 45% off discount on Coach Class fares, and a 5% off any discounted fare for which you otherwise qualify. This offer can save you a huge amount of money in travel expenses.

If you prefer to fly by some other airline, King Travel can guarantee you the lowest fares for which you can obtain. Call [REDACTED] or FAX [REDACTED] for further information.

If you desire KING TRAVEL SERVICE to make your travel plans from your starting city to Topeka and return. Telephone [REDACTED] and ask for Connie Foltz or Stephanie Stromgren. They may ask you to complete this form.

AIR/LAND TRAVEL REQUEST

NAME: _____

GUEST NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

DATES YOU WISH AIR TRAVEL TO KANSAS CITY AND RETURN HOME:

HOME PHONE: _____ BUSINESS: _____

I/WE wish ROUND TRIP Motor Coach or Van Transportation between Kansas City Airport and Topeka and return to Kansas City on dates I have indicated as travel dates. Rates are \$54 per person round-trip in air conditioned Bus or Van.

I/WE wish to obtain a Rental Car on arrival in Kansas City. Size of the Car desired: _____

Signature

Date

REGISTRATION NATIONAL REUNION

REGISTRATION & TOUR FEES

NAME: _____

GUEST NAME: _____

UNIT: _____ WW2: _____ VIETNAM: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1993.

Motor Coach tour Ft. Leavenworth, KS. Lunch included. Depart 9:00 am. Return about 4:30 pm. \$25 per person. No: _____. \$: _____.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1993.

Ladies shopping tour West Ridge Mall Topeka. Dutch buffet lunch at Old Country Buffet. \$6.00 per person. No: _____. \$: _____.

Motor Coach tour to Topeka Combat Air Museum at Forbes AFB. Home Confederate Air Force USA. See unique collection of old and new restored aircraft WW2 and Vietnam era. 2-4 pm. \$7.00 per person. No: _____. \$: _____.

Reunion Registration Fee. \$15.00 per person. No: _____. \$: _____.

Totals: \$: _____.

Make Check payable to Reunion 1993 ADVA. Mail to David L. Recob, [REDACTED], Topeka, KS. 66611-2132.

ITINERARY

DATE/TIME.

EVENT.

THURSDAY
JUN 24, '93.

Arrive at Motel. Check-In at Desk and at ADVA Table.

4:30-5:30 pm.

Wine & Cheese Party.

6:30-8:00 pm.

Old time Army Mess Hall Buffet Dinner on mess hall trays.

8:00-9:00 pm.

Giant USO Show of WW2 and 'Nam era.

9:30-?

Hospitality Suite open.

FRIDAY
JUNE 25, '93.

7:00-8:30 am.

Buffet Breakfast.

8:45 am-4:30 pm.

Tour of Ft. Leavenworth, KS. Lunch at Crossroads Club.

9:00 am

Hospitality suite open all day for those who remain.

6:30-8:00 pm.

Dinner.

8:00-9:00 pm.

Indian Dancers Show.

9:30 pm-?

Hospitality suite open.

DATE/TIME.

EVENT.

SATURDAY

JUN 26, '93.

7:00-8:30 am.

Buffet Breakfast.

9:30-11:30 am.

General Membership Meeting for the Men. Colors presented by Heroes of '76 Nat'l Soj. Inc.

10:00 am-1:30 pm.

Ladies tour of West Ridge Shopping Mall Shops. Dutch Lunch at Old Country Buffet.

9:30 am.

Hospitality Room open for those who remain.

6:30-8:00 pm.

Reunion Banquet Dinner. Colors presented by Heroes '76. Nat'l Soj. Inc.

Program: "Build The Flag".

Address: MGen. Lloyd Ramsey, former CG, Americal Division Vietnam.

Dance to the Big Band Sound of the "Night Hawks" Arratt Shrine Temple, Kansas City, MO.

Hospitality Room open for night owls.

SUNDAY

JUN 27, '93

7:00-8:30 am.

Buffet Breakfast.

8:45 am.

All Faith Divine Services and Prayer Service.

Check-Out and Return Home.

CENTRAL MID WEST CHAPTER ADVA HAS ENJOYED BEING HOST TO THIS 51ST REUNION OF THE AMERICAL DIVISION.



MAP OF TOPEKA, KANSAS
SHOWING MAJOR HIGHWAY ACCESS TO MOTEL
MARKED WITH X IN CIRCLE UPPER LEFT CORNER

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

THANK YOU PAUL DEMENE

The members of the Americal that made the trip back to New Caledonia last August would like to say a special "THANK YOU" to Paul Demene.

Paul was the representative of the war veterans of New Caledonia and he is head of an organization that is similar to our Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Paul Demene was responsible for the cocktail party and luncheon, that was put on by the French Veterans and was held in Veterans Hall, for our group.

Paul has corresponded with members of the ADVA and has sent several articles and pictures that have been in the Americal Newsletter.

Below is a picture that was taken inside of the Veteran's Hall.

Again ---- THANK YOU!



FROM THE PEN OF JERRY MARTEL

I read with great interest the November-December issue of the Americal Newsletter. It was excellent!

The stories about the return to New Caledonia were great and brought back a host of memories. How I wish that I could have been there. (I do speak some French) It was nice to know that five of the guys from my Company H, 182 Infantry were there.

Among the 'Letters from the Old Guard' I enjoyed one in particular from Arthur Guarente in which he expresses the disappointment at the almost complete lack of publicity and recognition for the Americal Division. Ask any one on the street if they ever heard of us and the answer is "NO".

This has been one of my biggest gripes for 50 years and I always try, in my small way, to explain to people who and what we were. A couple of years ago I was invited to speak at the Optimist Club here in Odessa, Texas and my subject was the Americal Division. Only one man in the group had ever heard of us.

Which bring me to the reason for writing to you. For some reason I was asked to represent the Americal at a symposium in San Antonio taking place on May 2 - 5, 1993. It is being run by the Curator of the famous Admiral Nimitz Museum and

Foundation of Fredericksburg, Texas. I am honored at being invited although I am not a speechmaker and I can think of a dozen guys that could do a better job of it.

At any rate, my subject will be the Americal Division of which I have always been very proud.

You and your staff are doing a great job with the Newsletter and I for one, certainly appreciate it. Thanks guys.

Sincerely,
PNC Jerry Martel

US ARMY TRANSPORT JOHN ERICSSON

During my period of service in the Merchant Marine during World War II, which carried the first American troops into Noumea, New Caledonia, landing on March 12, 1942. A year or so later, around mid 1943, I met some of these same troops, while they were on R and R from Guadalcanal campaign, at Latoka, Fiji.

I have always thought of that group, I believe they were the 132nd Infantry and members of the Illinois National Guard who had been on maneuvers in Louisiana, and after Pearl Harbor were brought to New York and shipped to the South Pacific on my ship. Is it possible to put a note in your Newsletter requesting word from any one who were on that trip who might remember the merchant sailor who passed them sandwiches from the crew's messroom while they were standing in their own long chow lines?

I am enclosing a copy of my recently issued book, "PETER, THE ODYSSEY OF THE MERCHANT MARINER" BY Captain Peter Chelemedos, for review and listing in your Newsletter.

The book covers the efforts of a youngster during the depression years to find a berth on a Merchant ship, and his succeeding years coveering the world during World War II and after. The book is available from the author. It has 188 Pages, appendices, bibliography and is \$29.95 post paid.

You may order the book or contact me:

Peter Chelemedos
[REDACTED]
Seattle, WA 98115-0617

Ed Note: Your book has been placed in the Americal Museum at Fort Devens, MA. I will read it and review it in the near future. Hope you hear from some of our members.

CAMP EDWARDS RELIVE THE WORLD WAR II DAYS
JUNE 5 - 6 1993

A series of anniversary events is planned with this years centerpiece - a USO show and a World War II encampment.

Because of the history of being the last stop for hundreds of thousands of troops bound for overseas, a POW camp, and stopover for wounded soldiers heading home, the Department of Defense has designated Camp Edwards as a commemorative community.

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

FLASH FLASH FLASH

CHAIRMAN OF THE 1993 NATIONAL REUNION COMMITTEE, DAVE RECOB, HAS JUST BEEN INFORMED THAT THE NATIONAL RACING ASSOCIATION HAS MOVED THEIR JUNE MEET FROM CANADA TO TOPEKA, KANSAS.

THIS MEANS THAT THE LODGING MARKET WILL BE TIGHT AND YOU ARE ADVISED TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION IMMEDIATELY.

IF YOU PLAN TO STAY AT A MOTEL OTHER THAN THE ONE SPONSORING THE REUNION MAKE RESERVATIONS NOW! THE SAME ADVISE IS GIVEN IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO USE A CAMPGROUND ---- RESERVE NOW!

SEE YOU IN TOPEKA

THE DILEMMA

To laugh is to risk appearing a fool. To weep is to risk appearing sentimental.

To reach out for another is to risk involvement.

To expose feelings is to risk rejection.

To place your dreams before the crowd is to risk ridicule.

To love is to risk not being loved in return. To go forward in the face of overwhelming odds is to risk failure.

But, risks must be taken because the greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing. The person who risks nothing does nothing, has nothing, is nothing.

He may avoid suffering and sorrow, but he cannot learn, feel, change, grow or love. Chained by his own certitudes, he is a slave. He has forfeited his freedom. Only a person who takes risks is free.....

[For our Brothers and Sisters who suffer that awful Post Traumatic Shock Distress syndrome, or P.T.S.D].

RADIATION EXPOSURE

To you veterans who were in WW2 and were near the atomic bombing effects of Nagasaki or Hiroshima, and now 47 years later have discovered you have cancer in your bodies; or to you guys who were in the Nevada desert test sites or on Eniwitok Island in the South Pacific, or served at Sea when nuclear bombs were tested on ships to see damage results, or who served at nuclear-chemical-biological sites anywhere, while in the service of your country, let me tell you that it is to your advantage to go to the American Legion, the VFW or Disabled American Veterans, and execute a claim for compensation and medical treatment. I was stationed at Camp Hanford, Washington, in the military police, and was exposed to nuclear contamination from Plutonium from 1952-1954, while patrolling that base as part of its security detail. Dig back in your memories guys. Dave Recob. 100% VA Disabled Vet.

KOREA - THE FORGOTTEN WAR

The Korean War! A war that most of us don't even remember or really know anything about. This was a war in which 54,246 men and women gave their lives; 103,284 suffered wounds; 8,177 were MIA, of which 389 are still unaccounted for. This was a war in which 17 countries were involved. Yet somehow, this is a war that continues to be overlooked and forgotten.

We, the veterans of Korea, as well as the veterans of all wars from Philadelphia, and surrounding areas, feel that it is time to remember and pay tribute. Almost 40 years have elapsed since the fighting ended on July 27, 1953. Almost 40 years, and yet we have not honored our brave comrades who fought and died in Korea.

Those of us who were lucky enough to come home, some still carrying pieces of the war in our bodies, all of us carrying pieces in our minds, felt it is time to unite and erect a fitting memorial to those left behind, fighting for freedom in the Republic of South Korea. A memorial for those who didn't return to the freedom we still enjoy! A memorial so that these souls will always be remembered.

We are asking for your support as caring people. By getting involved in our goal to build that tribute in whatever way you can. We need your help. We need your contributions. We need you to volunteer some time in fund raising activities. Whatever you can do is needed and will be remembered. Please call Robert McGovern, President Memorial Association, 2124 Race St, Philadelphia, PA. 19103, or call [215] 564-1100.

Let us join together so that "KOREA" and our deceased brothers and sisters will not be forgotten again.

[Reprinted from BRAVO Veterans Outlook, Dec92-Jan93 issue].

Ed comment: Being a Korean veteran of 1950-1951 who was in it from the start, who carries my own scars from it, give my maximum support to this project. I hope my fellow veterans likewise feel the same way.

PICTURES OF THE WASHINGTON, D.C.
WALL CEREMONY, NOV 11, 1992

The Next two pages are photographs of the Americal vets who visited Washington, D.C. on Nov 11, 1992, to remember our comrades who did not get back from Vietnam alive. The photographs depict several ADVA members, namely Ron Ward, Ron Ellis, Larry Gelnett, and others who were not identified. Every year the Americal vets make the pilgrimage to the Wall to pay their respects to our fallen comrades.

Ron Ward has been unofficial "honcho" of the event for several years, and we thank him and his group of guy's for being our representatives.

Photo's were provided by Sgt. Larry Gelnett of the Massachusetts Highway Patrol, a former member of the Second Platoon, at Duc Pho, 23rd M.P. Co.

We are all proud of our guy's who go and make the effort. They keep the memories of our Brothers alive. Thank's guy's.



VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK



VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

ROLLING THUNDER VI

RIDE FOR FREEDOM

P.O.W.-M.I.A.
"We Will Never Forget"

WW I 3,350
WW II 78,777
Korea 8,172
Vietnam 2,263

Washington, D.C.

Memorial Day Weekend

May 30, 1993

ASSEMBLE AREA: North Pentagon Lot at 9 am.

LEAVING: 12 Noon for the ride through Washington, D.C. to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to pay our respects to our Brothers and Sisters.

REFLECTING POOL: Speeches and music at the Reflecting Pool. For the return of our P.O.W.-M.I.A.'s that our government has abandoned! This is a demonstration for our P.O.W.-M.I.A.'s. If you love your freedom - fight for theirs!

RUN FOR THE WALL: For information, time of departure & arrival in States along the run from California to Washington, D.C. Call Rod 310-425-3145. Last year we had 45,000 bikes and some 60,000 riders. Will you help us increase support for our Brothers P.O.W.-M.I.A.? All Veteran organizations and citizens are welcome. If you don't ride, then be at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at 12 Noon, May 30th, 1993.

NO ATTITUDES!

Call: Artie

Don

Casino

Greasy

Jack

Jake

Eugene

Charlie

Rusty

Reid

Mike

Andre

Bob

Gil

[NJ]

[NJ]

[NJ]

[KY]

[MD]

[PA]

[GA]

[NJ]

[MI]

[NY]

[IL]

[CT]

[TN]

[Canada]

Looking for G/75 Buddies

Ben Dunham, [REDACTED], Oliver Springs, TN, 37840 is looking for buddies 1968-1969 who served with him at G-75 in Chu Lai. Drop him a line guy's. He just joined the A.D.V.A.

When you are finished reading this newsletter, why not take it to the local library and drop it off so someone can read it and know about things that still concern all veterans. Better yet, take it to a VA Hospital and share it with a vet.

If Health care is a concern to you as a senior citizen, write your Congressman and Senators and tell them what you need. If they don't know what you need, how can they legislate laws that can help, not hinder?



ROLLING THUNDER
C/O ARTIE MULLER
[REDACTED]

NESHANIC STA., N.J. 08853
[REDACTED]

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF ROLLING THUNDER,

ALL OF YOU HAVE SHOWN AMERICA WHAT UNITY IS ALL ABOUT. YOU HAVE ALL PUBLICIZED THE POW-MIA ISSUE AROUND THE WORLD. WITHOUT ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT FOR THIS ISSUE IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS OUR GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE WON AND THE POW-MIA ISSUE WOULD HAVE DIED A NATURAL DEATH. WE ALL TOOK A STAND TOGETHER AND TOOK ON THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT HAS ABANDONED LIVE AMERICAN POW'S IN THE PAST THREE WARS.

WE HELPED OUR BROTHER AND SISTER POW'S OF OPERATION DESERT STORM COME HOME. WE HAVE GOTTEN THE SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE IN OFFICE AND THEY HAVE PROVEN THAT LIVE AMERICAN POW'S HAVE IN FACT BEEN ABANDONED AFTER PAST WARS. MANY POLITICIANS WERE HOPING THAT THIS ISSUE (POW-MIA) WOULD NEVER SURFACE AND WOULD DIE A NATURAL DEATH. ALL OF YOU CAN BE PROUD OF WHAT WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED.

NOW THE QUESTION IS, ARE THERE STILL ANY LIVE POW'S IN FOREIGN CAMPS WAITING TO COME HOME? THIS WILL BE THE ROUGH PART OF SOLVING THIS ISSUE. CAN WE ACCEPT A SEARCH BY OUR GOVERNMENT? CAN WE BELIEVE THE POLITICIANS THAT LIE TO US AND ABANDONED AMERICAN POW'S AFTER A WAR THAT THEY STARTED FOR THEIR OWN BENEFIT? WE HAVE ONE UNIQUE BROTHERHOOD THAT ONLY WE THE VIETNAM VETS AND OUR SUPPORTERS KNOW. WE HAVE BEEN CALLED A BUNCH OF NUTS AND CRIERS FOR SOME YEARS OVER THE POW-MIA ISSUE. NOW WHO IS RIGHT AND SANE?

IF WE CAN GET LIVE POW'S BROUGHT HOME, WE COULD ASK FOR ONE MORE THING! DON'T LET THIS EVER HAPPEN AGAIN MR. PRESIDENT. WE HAVE A GREAT DEAL OF THANKS TO ALL M/C MAGAZINES FOR ALL THE HELP, PUBLICITY AND COVERAGE THEY HAVE GIVEN OUR RUNS. ALL OF YOU FROM THE UNITED STATES, CANADA AND OTHER COUNTRIES THAT RIDE IN ROLLING THUNDER. BE PROUD OF WHAT WE HAVE DONE TOGETHER. ALL OF YOU ARE ROLLING THUNDER AND THE SOUND OF FREEDOM FOR ALL PRISONERS OF WAR- MISSING IN ACTION. GOD BE WITH ALL OF YOU. "RIDE SAFE AND FREE". HOPE TO SEE ALL OF YOU AT ROLLING THUNDER VI, MAY 30, 1993. "POW-MIA" WE WILL NEVER FORGET YOU.

YOUR BRO,
Artie Muller
ARTIE MULLER
US ARMY 4TH INF. DIV.
VIETNAM 66-67

Now is the time to speak-up to your Congressman if you feel that you are being treated unfairly by the government concerning veteran claims, excessive taxation, and improper representation. Your voice is needed to make the system "work!"

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES TO YOUR CHAPTER? TO ADVA AT NATIONAL HQ? DO IT TODAY!

VIETNAM

NEWS

NETWORK

Tom Ridge
21st District Pennsylvania

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3821

December 9, 1992

Lt. Col. Peter J. Messina
National Commander
American Division Veterans Association

Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17055

Dear Pete:

Thank you for writing to me regarding the Board of Veterans Appeals. I appreciate your interest in this very important matter.

The mission and goals of the Board is to equitably decide appeals under all laws administered by the VA. It must ensure that appellants are afforded due process of law, receive timely, complete, careful, fair, and sympathetic consideration for their appeals, and receive all benefits to which they and their dependents are entitled. As a Congressman, I am fully aware of the many draw-backs pertaining to the system. As a Vietnam Veteran and a member of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, I am always searching for ways to make it better.

Should you have specific items you would like to see addressed with regard to the Board of Veterans Appeals, please do not hesitate to contact me or my Veterans Affairs Legislative Assistant, Stephen Surovec. We would be happy to discuss the matter with you further.

With best regards, I remain

Sincerely,

s/Tom Ridge
t/Tom Ridge
Member of Congress

Ed comment: Refer to page 1, Commanders Message, Jan-Feb '93 Issue. The above letter is in reference to the Commanders letter to Congressman Ridge.

Congressman Jim Slattery, 2nd Congressional District of Kansas, is the new Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, and is a champion of veterans rights and benefits. He can be reached in Washington, D.C. in care of the House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515-3821. Tell him Dave Recob of Topeka, asked you to write him your problem. Here is a politician who cares about people.



L.Z. FRIENDLY
[REDACTED]
ATHENS, GA 30604
TEL: [REDACTED]

Seasons Greetings from LZ Friendly

The Ninth Annual Campout and Family Gathering will be held over the Memorial Day Weekend, May 28-31, 1993, at the Madison County Fairgrounds in

Comer, GA. The annual campout has become a Southern tradition - an "In-country R&R Center" known for its hospitality, food, relaxed atmosphere. We'll be open again in May, so make your plans now to join us.

Over the Veterans Day holiday in November, eighteen members of LZ Friendly joined with the Floyd County Vietnam Veterans Association [Rome, GA] and the Bartow County Vietnam Veterans Association [Cartersville, GA] in a trip to Washington, D.C., for the 10th Anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. It was "an excellent adventure" highlighted by all three groups representing Georgia in the Veterans Day Parade.

On Veterans Day, 1990, representing LZ Friendly, John Snyder and Stephen Haussmann placed two donated pieces of art at the wall: "The Gage" and "The Door". Created by Worth Parker, then a Student at an Athens high school, they were donated to LZ Friendly in the hope that one day they might be presented to the VVM and then archived along with the thousands of other offerings, mementos, and remembrances left at the Wall since 1982. In November, out of the more than 25,000 objects left in the past 10 years. "The Gage" was selected for inclusion in an exhibit of 500 items representative of the spirit in which the gifts were given. Entitled "Personal Legacy: The Healing Of A Nation", the exhibit is on display at the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of American History. On behalf of the 58,183 members of LZ Friendly, we are honored and proud to have become part of American history.

LZ Friendly is in the process of assembling an archive of our own - a scrapbook and video history since 1985. If you have any photo's or items you'd like to donate please send them in. We'll display a collection at the campout.

The Christmas Party was held December 12th, 1992, 7:30 pm at the American Legion in Danielsville, GA. Food, liquid refreshments, and music by Jimmy Grant, was free for LZ Friendly members and cost \$5.00 for non-members.

If you know of someone who would like to join, or be on the mailing list, or who needs info on the campout, drop us a line and we'll do the rest. If you'd like to help spread the word about the campout, contact us and we'll send some flyers that have been prepared for sharing with friends and other vets groups.

The LZ Friendly Newsletter has a circulation of 980 copies, primarily to Vietnam Veterans, veterans groups, and families and friends. Although the yearly membership averages around 120, the campout comes about through dedicated work, toil, and labor of a core group of some 30 to 40 LZ Friendly members and their families from the northeast Georgia area.

These behind the scenes efforts have made our annual gatherings possible.

Please give a thought about lending us a hand during the campout for a couple of hours or more, if you can. Many thanks.

Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for the New Year.

L.Z. Friendly Staff...

IF YOU DRAW SOCIAL SECURITY OR ARE ON A FIXED LEVEL INCOME, WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMAN AND SENATORS AND TELL THEM TO BACK OFF DENYING YEARLY INCREASES IN THE COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT. TAXES CAN BE CUT IN OTHER AREAS.

VIETNAM

NEWS

NETWORK

Bob Hornlein
[REDACTED]

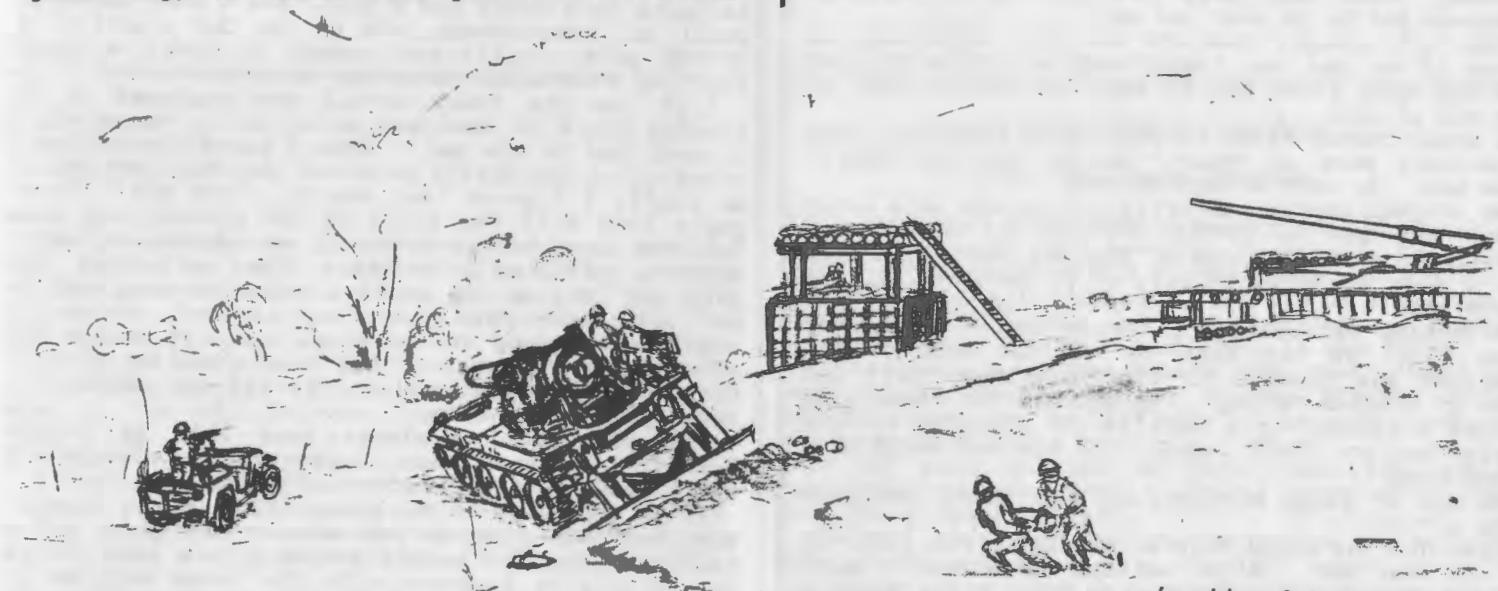
Stamford, CT 06906

Dear Dave:

Thanks for printing the story of the Tra Bong incident into the last issue of the newsletter with interview by Vietnam magazine. I'm sure that many "REMF's" will relate and have their own unsung stories to tell. Please encourage them!

At the time, I was in our hootch trying to get some shut-eye when we heard screams of incoming from the gun pits. Tim Paganelli and I ran outside with our M-16's towards our howitzer [Gun 2] and saw Gun 1 run out of its gun pit as mortar rounds exploded right behind it. You can imagine my amazement as I stood there, in the open, my jaw agape, my eyes as big as ash can lids, as they prepared to shoot. Red couldn't depress the tube down the slope enough until they jacked up the rear with the recoil spade. Then "Fire", boom, and a split second later the round impacts on target and shrapnel from the blast starts flying. A chunk lands at my feet, so Tim and I run into our powder bunker to watch the action.

I wish I had grabbed my camera instead of M-16! Anyway, we're standing on top of three days worth of powder increments. We were shooting charge 1, green bag, so there were piles of discarded



Submitted by: Bob Hornlein.

Taper Two Alfa

Dear David:

I want to compliment you on the fine job you are doing as Vietnam Editor of the Americal Newsletter. The articles and other items make for great reading, and bring back more than old memories.

It's amazing how much I read in that section of the Newsletter, jogs my memory; an incident here, a reminder there. It seems like many of us had the same experiences in Nam though we served at different times and in different units.

I've included a short poem for your consideration for the next newsletter. Your call as to print it or not.

Best Wishes,

An Americal Vet

increments [4 unused per round out of 5] littering the bunker floor. Normally, these unfired charges were taken down to the river and burned everyday. But, lately, Charlie owned the river. I looked down at my feet, then Tim looked at me, and "aaaaahhhh", this is NOT a good place to be, "aaaaahahaha"! We then ran over to our fighting bunker and saw a sight depicted in the sketch below. I'll never forget thinking with the typical derision of a GI, "look at Duvall pulling a John Wayne". Hindsight has shown me this was envy for his courage. If he can be found, I'll certainly write and affidavit for him, but I'm sure he will say it was no 'big deal'!

The example in that war was that incredible bravery was taken as routine. I have no idea why this action at Tra Bong is not acknowledged except that it was, as above, routine.

Thanks for your very kind words in your letter to me about the article.

Sincerely,

R.W. Hornlein

Ed note: Bob - thanks for doing your bit to help "heal" the wounds, and tell the story straight.

Leslie Hines
[REDACTED]

Des Moines, IA 50317-4130
Phone: [REDACTED]

Dear David:

I am attempting to locate former members of the 123rd Combat Aviation Battalion of the Americal Division. I have found that issues of the ADVA Newsletter is useful in locating men from my unit. I would appreciate hearing from former members of the 123rd Avn Bn.

Leslie Hines.

Ed note: Les is a member of ADVA. Write him 123rd Avn Bn.

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

STORIES OF A DEMOLITION MAN & TUNNEL RAT
By Maurice Henson
A/1/26th Engineers

Dear Dave:

I received your letter on 30 Oct and I must say I was really struck with awe. This is quite an honor. I was so much taken with your request that truthfully, I had to show it to several good friends, none of whom were in the military. But they all said the same thing! "All Right!"

In the few days since showing them your letter, I've been asked many times if I have yet wrote you to accept this honor.

I do think, I can safely say that my becoming a Demo Man was really more of being in the wrong place at the wrong time. It started with my being picked by one "short" Spec Five as his replacement for Demo Man. As a "very green" trooper, I was now the senior demo man for the 1st platoon in an E-5 slot, and I was only a PFC at the time!

The nine of us from the same AIT company who were all assigned to the 1st platoon, had the same amount of training with explosives. "A one week familiarization course!"

About 20 days after being with A company at LZ Baldy, three of us soon found out we were now demo men [the other two were Thornton Fields and Gary Gillespie]. I guess you could say green, "boot shaking" demo men with yet no O.J.T. or demo missions yet to be sent out on.

That all changed come 4th of July, 1968 when the three of us and one "smart" demo man from the 1st platoon were flown out to meet up with F Troop at the old LZ Colt.

I truly think the three of us without demo experience were as "smart" as the one old "smart" demo man. He made a "BIG MISTAKE!"

We stacked mortar and artillery rounds in a large stack and put a little C-4 to it, attached a blasting cap to the end of the det cord, and then ran a mile or so of it off, to allow us to be in a "safe area!"

Attaching yet another blasting cap to a piece of time fuze, we put that to the det cord. When everyone was ready, the time fuze was "lit" and soon it blasted "alive". We watched the flame zing across a stream, up a bank to the stack of waiting mortar and artillery rounds, and the end would be a "loud bang!"

We had it going alright, but our "bang" was more like a "poof!"

That did not sound like an ending to the three of us new demo men. After waiting for a "safe time", we and the other members of F Troop crept forward to "see the results!"

What we found was that the "poof" accomplished one thing only. It "scattered" [not blown] all the mortar and artillery rounds. As we sat and looked the entire area over, it was "then" that a 20mm cannon round decided to "blow". It was a tracer round and just burned. Well, that was "WARNING ENOUGH" we recalled from A.I.T. We now knew if we would walk up to, or pick up any of those rounds, it could be the "very last thing we would do, in this life!"

So, now comes the hard part. To restack or not restack.

We decided to restack. Each time we walked up to a mortar or artillery round, we wondered "is this the one!" But, we were lucky. We got them restacked.

Again, putting some C-4 on the stack, and every TIME the "smart" demo man said that was

enough C-4, we ignored him, and "kept adding more C-4 on top of C-4" to make sure it blew this time.

We repeated all the previous steps, and we had one heck of an explosion, as we now sat in the dark at LZ Colt and watched "fireworks displays" that saw explosions that rocked all the way South as far as Chu Lai. "What a show!"

It was our "accidental" way to usher in July 4, 1968, when that stack blew half of Vietnam off the map! And, three new demo men got their boots wet and accomplished their very first mission with a loud "bang!"

I have another incident that should probably not be told, but it's so long ago, it won't hurt. It is about the time I "shook up" LZ Ross and COL. Nelson, the C.O.

In St. Louis in 1989, at the Reunion of the 196th Locate A Brother, I met some of the men of the 2nd of the 1st who were there at the time. Again, it had to do with mortars and artillery rounds, mixed with Claymores and all kinds of ammunition added to a small demolitions pit. It's a story exactly opposite of what COL. Nelson instructed us to do!

The ingredients were a deuce and a half truck, loaded with mortar and artillery rounds, a jeep trailer brimming with Claymores, ammunition of all kinds, hand grenades, etc., and just one demo man, namely me, working alone in a pit, stacking stuff to be blown up, and then hear the "bang" of a tailgate on a deuce and a half, and a dumb question about is there enough room on top the pile for "a little more stuff!" was enough to start a chain reaction from which there was no retreat.

A LT. in the truck detail was supposed to be keeping track of what was piled on top the stuff I already had in the pit. When I heard the tailgate close after the detail unloaded the stuff on top of my stuff, I figured that was it. "NOT SO!" Those guy's left half the stuff on the ground, and then left the area back for the LZ leaving me to ponder what to do. After thinking about unloading the pit, and rolling the stuff a safe distance away so we could have two explosions instead of one, I rejected the idea as too long, too hard, and a lot of work. I figured one big bang would be okay. I thought COL. Nelson would not tell the difference in bangs. Was I wrong!

The pit was now almost brim full of broken crates, small arms ammo, Claymores, grenades, and a truck load of mortar and artillery rounds.

I set the fuses to the C-3 satchel, three in all, and the crew that helped unload the deuce and a half with the LT., we all jumped into a jeep to bug out to a safe distance with the fuses burning in the satchel bags. The jeep would not start. The LT. grinded away at the starter, as I watched my watch down to 48 seconds left and the jeep still not starting, and was just about ready to yell "RUN LIKE HELL" for cover!, when suddenly - the jeep coughed to life, and we sped to safety behind some boulders a short distance from the pit. I waited to hear the "BANG!" the 48 seconds elapsed - and still silence.

I knew better than to run to the pit to check it. How right I was! Twelve seconds later the earth shook violently under a great explosion, and out of the pit rose a small mushroom cloud and you could see sparks from ammo, grenades, etc., blowing up in the thick black hole.

The explosion set-off trip flares and other devices installed on nearly LZ's and lit the sky with fireworks. I knew - there would be "Hell to pay!" I done woke up the Devil.

CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

STORIES OF A DEMOLITION MAN & TUNNEL RAT (CONCLUSION)

As we all slowly came out from behind the boulders, and walked towards the pit, it was several times larger than before, and much deeper than I could imagine. It was a "rumble" worse than those California earthquakes I was used to back home.

There was neary a splinter of anything left in that hole. Not a toothpick.

When we got back to the Main Gate of the LZ, there was COL. Nelson. As the LT. talked to the Colonel, I knew it was "time for me to disappear!", so I gathered my demo bag and hustled off to my platoon area.

That day, the earth shook, was a day everyone at LZ Ross remembered well.

I hope to put together the stories of Hill 210, LZ Polar Bear II, Antenna Valley, and the Haunted Bunker, in the coming months.

I also was a "Tunnel Rat" for a while, and that too will be forthcoming, if worthy for printing. Tunnel Rats you remember, were small guys. I was 5'8" and weighed 175 pounds, when I crawled through tunnels.

Again, thank-you for asking me to contribute to the Newsletter. I can do an "A-One-Type-Job" if need be. Edit me for spelling, and to make it look right. The old motto was "I Can, I Will".

Until later,

Maurice Henson

Larry Laake

London, TX 76854

Dear David:

The Newsletter is no doubt an integral part of the continuing well being of the ADVA. Recent issues have raised questions as to what the ADVA wants to accomplish. The Editor-In-Chief has allowed some negative remarks to go to print. These negative remarks don't bother me, in as much as they may affect others, including potential new members. In all fairness to the ADVA, I will not submit my last two issues to the local public library.

A final concern about the Vietnam News Network format. I can of course, speak only for myself. But I enjoy the Vietnam war stories and would like to see more in the VNN section. Good work David.

Respectfully yours,

Larry Laake
1st Signal Bde Det/198th LIB

Ed note: Thanks for the other copy, I will use later. Read my reply to him below.

Dear Larry:

Thank-you for the articles and letter. You have the wrong slant on what I consider negative remarks or stories.

I won't print lies, untruths, attacks on military leadership or establishment without substantiation or proof. I don't mind unfavorable lessons being discussed, if we can back them up. People sue people for liable. The ADVA cannot afford to take such a risk because people "like" to read these items. If your conscience won't permit this, then

I am sorry, and can only tell you that you are free to do with your newsletters as you feel fit.

I'm sort of tired to have people constantly complain about things that cannot be settled, no matter how hard we try to satisfy those needs. Some people are on a vendetta, and I will not allow my column to be their assault weapon without proof of what they are saying is true or factual.

You are free to voice your opinion, and I will fight for your right to do it. If my policy offends you, you are free to complain to the National Commander and seek redress.

The goal of the Editor-In-Chief and myself has been to report to the membership, well rounded stories and articles that are timely, interesting, and factual in basis. I have his support in my decision. You notice He don't let that stuff into his column either. I'm afraid we live in an aggravated society that is mad at everything, with no solutions to offer. We ought to practice a little respect and brotherly love instead of smacking someone in the head or writing defamatory stories about them. I hope your not upset at this, but that's my nickels worth, and I'm most willing to hear what you, and anyone else has to say.

Again, thanks for writing.

Dave Recob
Vietnam Editor

cc: Jim Buckle
Editor-In-Chief

ADVA SCHOLARSHIP FUND NEWS

From: Ron Ward, Chairman

Ron reports a \$100 gift in memory of LTC. Francis C. Mischler; \$25 gift for LTC. Francis G. Gilbert; \$500 to the memory of P.N.C. William F. McGoldrick. These are not all inclusive, but Ron is encouraged at the rate donations and contributions are coming in to him. Ron asks you send money to Joe Chinn.

Contributions for the Scholarship Fund should be sent to Joe Chin, National Finance Officer, P.O. Box 673, Lincoln, MA 01773-0006. It will speed-up the process by doing that.

If we miss someone we will report it in a subsequent report which is being prepared by the National Finance Officer.

Ron and His Committee is hoping to be able to make a scholarship award at the 1993 Annual Reunion in Topeka if we can get enough participation from the membership to build the fund to support itself and from new contributions as time passes.

The Committee is working on an Application Form to be used by students and schools to be used by the students, and hopefully, will have one available for request once it is worked out.

The Scholarship Committee gratefully appreciates all contributions made since inception at San Antonio last year, and thanks those responsible for getting this foundation off the table and into existence as a working committee of the ADVA.

Past National Commander Ron Ward and his Committee is working hard to make this program a really worthwhile venture. Your continued support will make it happen.

Remember to send those contributions to our National Finance Officer, Joe Chin at P.O. Box 673, Lincoln, MA 01773-0006.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP A NEW MEMBER YET?

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

Talladega, AL 35160-2700

Americal Association:

Dear Sir:

It would be an honor to be accepted as a member of the Americal Association. I am a member of VFW Post #924 here in Talladega, but I know of no one who served with the Americal Division during WW2 or Vietnam.

Many of my friends were from the Northeastern part of the United States, and "I have NO enemies! I was so disappointed in not seeing any friends at the Sheraton National for the 10th Anniversary of the "Wall".

Please send me an application. I am sending my DD214 and some articles I thought you might be interested in.

I loved the Americal Division and I loved the people in it that I served with. I am looking forward to seeing them in the future.

I also have 200 letters that I sent home, giving a day by day account of my time with C Battery, 1/14th Arty. If they would be of any use to any historian, please have them contact me.

I am looking forward to getting an application and I hope you accept me into the organization.

Sincerely,

John R. Sartain, Sgt.

1967-1968 C 1/14th Arty.

S-P-E-C-I-A- N-O-T-I-C-E

Anyone who remembers this brother KIA in Vietnam:

DONALD L. CONTARINO
174th Avn Co
14th Avn Bn
16th Avn GP

please contact the below lady who was at the Wall on Veterans Day and saw our Americal wreath. She struck up conversation with a group of Americal Vets and identified herself as this soldier's Mother. She has never spoken with anyone who served with her son in Vietnam. If you know him, and any details of his service, please contact:

CHRISTINE M. McDONALD
Beverly, MA 01915

Company C 1/6 Inf. 198 Bde.

Robert J. Behm who served with Company C 1/6 Inf. 198 Bde. from July 1970 to November in Chu Lai. Is seeking information from anyone who knew of him getting injured on patrol. He was in the 198th Americal Division Hospital in Chu Lai. If anyone can help, please contact Robert at the address below.

Robert J. Behm

Pine Grove, PA 17963

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

GIVING

It seems every time we go to our mailbox and take out the letters we find some appeal for financial gift to some organization dedicated to the welfare of mankind or research to find better medicine and medical discoveries to combat the ravages that plague mankind.

Tel-marketing, letter writing, knocking on the front door, stopping one on the street, encountering boxes of candy in eating establishments asking us for our change to help the little children, bombard us daily as we make our way from home to the work place and anywhere else we may travel in contact with mankind.

Communities operate shelters for the homeless, food for the hungry, and blankets or coats for protection from the cold. The Red Cross, Salvation Army, Rescue Missions, Civic organizations, and the like hammer out their need for us to give and to support their work to make life better for mankind.

Major religions ask for financial support to carry on their mission of bringing God and Christ into our lives and to make our spiritual needs better served by sharing the costs of a ministry. The Federal, State, and local Governments of our nation collect from us taxes to support cities and a national defense force and government to oversee our needs.

Everywhere we turn, walk, or sit - someone has a hand stretched out for us to put something into it for use of needy people.

We all wonder that being caught up in the daily clamoring for our financial support of all these things above, "where were these guys when "I" needed some financial help?"

Yet, Brothers - we cannot withhold a helping hand to our neighbor when asked, for by practicing Charity, we receive better than what we give to ease the burdens of another human being. A few dollars from each of us won't solve the problems of the world, but it helps. Another gift we can give to the needy is the gift of ourselves. We can listen, offer comfort, advice, and solace to a wounded heart. There is more to Charity than money. Not all of us can afford to financially support mankind, but we can give our services, our talents, and our sweat. When you think of all the good one person can do when he gives of himself, freely, and without reservation, to relieve the distress of his afflicted brother, through kindness and love of one man/woman to another, that then is the greatest of giving, and in so giving, we receive in the end, more than we hoped to have given to the needy. We receive the feeling of "Self Satisfaction" of doing a job well done, and by our own sweat, we brought about a marvelous healing to a broken spirit. Do not despair the fact you cannot give money or financial aid. To just give of yourself in any talent you have that will benefit another is better than putting money into an outstretched hand.

Some of our Vietnam Brothers are broken men, haunted by dreams that will not go away, that cause them to be angry within themselves, and to see visions in their brains that many have long forgot. Men who suffer the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or what you WW2 guys called Combat Fatigue need our attention, and our understanding. We need to make these men feel their service was worthwhile and we must help them rid themselves of the devils that torment their souls. Reach out and touch that veteran with love, kindness, and understanding. Just give yourself. That is the true spirit of simple giving. Yourself.

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

AGENT ORANGE VETERAN PAYMENT PLAN

Any Vietnam era veteran who served in the U.S. Armed Forces in or near Vietnam from January 1, 1961 to December 31, 1971, who believes he has been exposed to Agent Orange and who has become 100% totally disabled under Social Security standards before Age 60, is eligible to make application for a maximum payment of \$12,500.00 from the Agent Orange Veteran Payment Program, P.O. Box 110, Hartford, CT 06104.

Tel: 1-800-225-4712 and ask for a kit of forms to be filled out. They are simple in nature, take about 30 minutes of your time, and require as proof to support the claim, [1] A copy of your DD 214, [2] A copy of your Social Security Letter of Award, and [3] A statement from your private or VA physician that you were 100% totally disabled prior to your 60th Birthday.

Americal Division veterans of the Vietnam era were stationed in I Corps, the northern most post in Vietnam.

Many of us suffer from the effects of Agent Orange and are awaiting VA determination on our claims. However, the program being described is not handled by the Dept of Veterans Affairs and is an independent body created by the federal courts to oversee a 240 million dollar settlement from the herbicide companies that manufactured Agent Orange that was used in Vietnam to defoliate the jungles and expose the NVA or Viet-Cong. This is compensation in addition to any that the Dept of Veteran Affairs may award eligible veterans.

Since I was declared 100% disabled by VA for my injuries while in the Army in Korea and Vietnam and am on VA compensation, I have received mail from organizations informing me of several rights we have in seeking compensation.

The 240 million dollars spoke of in this article is a fund in the hands of the federal court and is being paid now to veterans who apply within 60 days of receipt of the kit of forms supplied from the above organization, simply by calling the above 1-800 toll free telephone number.

You can bet this veteran has submitted his own application for a shot at \$12,500.00 in compensation for my own exposure to Agent Orange. It doesn't matter where you were stationed in the Americal Division in I Corps. If you have become 100% totally disabled under Social Security before your 60th birthday, you are eligible to apply for this compensation. If you are not 100% disabled by Social Security Standards but are certified 100% disabled by VA you can still apply, but must meet requirements outlined in the book of instructions that tell you how to complete the forms. It is not hard at all.

If an eligible veteran is now deceased who was eligible under these standards, his surviving spouse or children may make application for this payment. There is a form to be filled out by the survivor and it too, is simple.

Fellow Vietnam veterans, if you are eligible to make application for some of this available settlement money from the herbicide companies who sprayed Vietnam from one end to the other, and a lot of U.S. troops, perhaps yourself in the process, or who spoiled the jungle with the long lasting effects of Agent Orange that came into contact with you unknowingly, you are one "wild and crazy guy" to pass this opportunity for compensation. Call [REDACTED] and ask for your kit today!

DAVE RECOB, Vietnam Editor

CO. A 1/6 INF. 198 BDE.

I am writing you as a member of the Americal Division Veterans Association who has let his dues get behind. I talked to Steve Dennison, Eastern Regional Chapter Commander, last week and he kept bugging me about my Chapter dues. I told him that I had not paid my National dues yet so I was not eligible to pay Chapter dues. I won't put in print what Steve told me but suffice to say I am enclosing my dues. I am paying \$25.00 at this time for a down payment on Life membership. Please bill me at the appropriate time for the next installment.

As a former member of A Co. 1/6th, 198th LIB, Americal Division, 1969-70, I do enjoy reading the newsletter. I naturally enjoy the Vietnam News Network the most since I am more familiar with this era but also enjoy reading what our WW II Americal brothers did before us. As a County Director of Veterans Affairs I have the opportunity to see and talk to Veterans of all Wars, and they all deserve whatever this nation can do for them in way of thanks for a great job. I can't help but remember in the fall of 1969 when word came that we were getting a new battalion commander who was really gunning. Well it turned out that this LTC was gunning, but twenty years latter LTC Norman Schwarzkopf, showed the world what he learned from the Americal Division.

I have never made a reunion but perhaps one of these days I will. I would appreciate it if you would take care of my dues for me and that way keep Dennison off my butt. Thanks.

Sincerely yours,
Craig R. Singer

DO YOU KNOW THESE MEN?

A COMPANY 6 INFANTRY 198 LIB 68-69

Anyone having knowledge of Lt. Frank J. Szydlowski who served in the above unit please contact:

Ron Ward

St. Louis, MO 63123

His last address was in Buffalo, NY. If we have any members who can access the drivers license computer in NY I'd like to hear from them.

Ron

BATTERY C 11 ARTILLERY 11 LIB 69-70

I would like to contact any Americal members that served in the above unit or anyone that remembers me. Please write to:

Vernon Hughes

Martinsburg, WV 25401

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER

IT NEEDS YOU!



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MARCH - APRIL 1993



Eligibility for Membership

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

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

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

Dedication

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

AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 1381, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02104

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name:

Telephone:

Address — Street:

City:

State:

Zip:

Americal Unit Rgt.

Bn.

Co/Bty.

Other

Dates of Service — From:

To:

Serial No.:

Date of Birth:

Blood Type:

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)