



FOUNDED 1945

JANUARY - FEBRUARY - MARCH 1995

AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

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

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: JAMES C. BUCKLE

VIETNAM EDITOR: ROLAND T. CASTRONOVA

Published Quarterly

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

IN MEMORIUM



164 INFANTRY NORTH DAKOTA

1994 NATIONAL OFFICERS 1995

NATIONAL COMMANDER

William K. Maddox
[REDACTED]
Portland, TX 78374

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Stephen N. Dennison
[REDACTED]
Pittsburgh, PA 15227

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Gary L. Noller
[REDACTED]
Austin, TX 78759

NATIONAL FINANCE OFFICER

Joseph Chin
[REDACTED]
Lincoln, MA 01773-0006

NATIONAL ADJUTANT

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

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

James C. Buckle - Chairman
Roland C. Castranova
Peter J. Messina
Alfred R. Doig
John DeGroot
James J. Flynn
Leo Ciccolo
Daniel P. Ramsey Jr.
Robert N. Thornton
Ronald R. Ellis
Edward W. Marsh

CHAPTER COMMANDERS

Harold J. Gigli New England Chapter
Stephen Dennison Eastern Regional Chapter
Elmer E. Matola 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]

Harwich, MA 02645

Telephone [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

VIETNAM EDITOR

Roland T. Castranova
[REDACTED]
Peabody, MA 01960

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

MONTHLY A.D.V.A. MEETINGS

March 11, 1995
Headquarters Mass. State Area Command
25 Haverhill Street
Camp Curtis Guild, Reading, Mass.
Route 128 and Route 129
10:00 A.M.

April 15, 1995
Headquarters Mass. State Area Command
25 Haverhill St.
Camp Curtis Guild, Reading, MA
Route 128 and Route 129
10:00 A.M.

May 20, 1995
Headquarters Mass. State Area Command
25 Haverhill St.
Camp Curtis Guild, Reading, MA
Route 128 and Route 129
10:00 A.M.

June 24, 1995
Americal National Convention
Chicago Marriott Hotel
General Membership Meeting
9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon

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

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

SICK CALL

182 INFANTRY	182 INFANTRY
William A. Barrett Jr. [REDACTED] Lynn, MA 01904	Haskell W. Cohen [REDACTED] Roslindale, MA 02131
182 INFANTRY F Co.	182 INFANTRY F Co.
Kenneth Coburn [REDACTED] Waltham, MA 02154	Delmo Ferrante [REDACTED] Wilmington, MA 01887
182 INFANTRY H Co.	182 INFANTRY F Co.
Joe B. Yochum [REDACTED] Vincennes, IN 47591	Lewis C. Turner [REDACTED] Oroville, CA 95966-5643

HEY GUYS! HOW ABOUT A CARD?

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

Adj. Bernard C. Chase

South Yarmouth, MA 02664

TAPS TAPS

182 INFANTRY E CO.	26 SIGNAL CO.
Malcolm S. Bredbury Reading, MA December 1, 1994	Francis X Bride Lake Charles, LA Date Unknown
132 INFANTRY CAN CO	182 INFANTRY C CO.
Colen R. Brymer Wyandotte, MI Date Unknown	Vernon Capellos East Milton, MA October 22, 1994
132 INFANTRY M CO.	132 INFANTRY K CO.
Robert W. Carbray Port Charlotte, FL 1993 Date Unknown	Richard F. Casper Evanston, IL Date Unknown
182 INFANTRY HQ/3	11 LIB HHC 23 HQ
Emile J. Clad Chicopee, MA April 20, 1994	Morris D. Cobeth Greenland, NH May 5, 1994
132 INFANTRY SER CO	9 STATION HOSPITAL
Burton T. Duncan Martinez, CA September 25, 1994	Wanda W. Engel Toledo, OH December 4, 1994
182 INFANTRY C CO.	182 INFANTRY H CO.
John D. Gralton Chelmsford, MA November 23, 1994	Walter Hertz New Hampshire May 1994
182 INFANTRY H CO.	182 INFANTRY F CO.
Alex Hill Concord, MA November 10, 1994	Louis J. Iannelli Arlington, MA January 22, 1995
182 INFANTRY F CO.	182 INFANTRY H CO.
William F. Kane Arlington, MA September 23, 1994	Edward Kellogg California July 1994
182 INFANTRY F CO.	670 ENGINEER CO.
Edward Maguire Plymouth, MA May 27, 1994	Douglas P. Moore Monroe, NC March 31, 1994
164 INFANTRY A CO.	SPECIAL TRS MED DET
Albert Morrone New Haven, CT February 1995	Robert Mullen Quincy, MA August 14, 1994
198 LIGHT INF BRIG	182 INFANTRY I CO.
Bruce Semendoff Staten Island, NY October 11, 1994	Odes W. Smith Strafford, MO January 10, 1995
182 INFANTRY H CO.	132 INFANTRY F CO.
Dennis Solomos Lexington, MA December 7, 1994	Bert T. Sylvester Marysville, CA September 1994
23 DIVISION ARTY	121 MEDICAL BN.
Danny L. Watson Ewing, NE Date Unknown	Paul J. Fortunato Medford, MA October 21, 1994

REINSTATED

Steve Crabtree 75 Rangers G Co. Mesa, AZ	Lincoln E. Currier 182 Infantry Bedford, MA
Robert Doonaw 196 LIB 1/46 Inf Mechanicsburg, PA	Michael D. Gottschalk 11 Arty 6th Bn Lapeer, MI
Gary L. Hulbert 20 Infantry HHC/1 Cleveland Heights, OH	

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Aden J. Bell 196 LIB D/2/1 Inf Buffalo, NY R. Castranova	John C. Bullock 14 Cmt Avn 71 Avn C Redondo Beach, CA PNC R. Castranova
Gary L. Creiglow 198 LIB E/5/46 Inf Fairborn, OH Memb. Com.	Percy L. Monceaux 132 Infantry Crowley, LA
Jerome D. Parson 82 Arty 1/82 Easley, SC #Memb. Com.	Dain E. Pierson 198 LIB C/1/6 Inf Chicago, IL John Hofer
James L. Reasner 182 Infantry F Co Mesa, AZ Joe D. Feeler	James R. Rhodes 196 LIB 2/1 Inf Japan Pete Messina
Daniel Viergutz 1 Cav 1st Sqd Alamosa, CO #Bernie Chase	

NEW MEMBERS

John D. Alcaras 21 Infantry A/3/21 Vista, CA #Dan Linkage	Charles J. Arcoletti 198 LIB B/1/52 Inf Corapolis, PA #Memb. Com.
James G. Ashwell 11 Arty B/6/1 Arty Newington, CT #R. Castranova	Gary G. Atchison 82 Arty A/3/82 Fallbreck, CA #Gary Noller
Gary L. Atherton 196 LIB D/Hq/2/1 Inf Valparaiso, IN #Memb. Com.	Douglas W. Babcock 11 LIB D/3/1 Inf Eaton Rapids, MI #Memb. Com.
Jeff H. Baca 196 LIB B/4/31 Inf Morro Bay, CA #Ernie Carlson	Cameron F. Baird 82 Arty 1/82 Stonewall, TX #Ernie Carlson
Paul Barniele 91 Aviation Newton, MA #R. Castranova	Dennis W. Baum 196 LIB E/1/46 Inf Miami, FL #R. Castranova
Maurice L. Beauregard 196 LIB 4/31 Inf East Hartford, CT #Les Hines	Bruce Belisle 123 Avn Bn A/123 Moses Lake, WA #Les Hines

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

NEW MEMBERS

Richard Bellrose
196 LIB 1/6 Inf Rec
Holden, MA
#R. Castronova

Michael J. Boles
196 LIB A/2/1 Inf
Fort. Wayne, IN
#R. Castronova

Stanley G. Bonta
198 LIB Hdq.
Florence, KY
#Col. Joe Clemons

Thomas T. Bryant
196 LIB
Greenville, SC
#Bernie Chase

Elliot J. Carey
182 Infantry D Co.
North Billerica, MA
#Joseph Law

Paul Cassidy
196 & 11 LIB 4/3 Inf
Philadelphia, PA
#Memb. Com.

Connie L. Chronister
Associate
Thomasville, PA
#Ronald E. Chronister

Robert W. Cigrand
101 QM 493 QM
Dothan, AL
#Bernie Chase

Charles E. Clark Sr.
196 LIB
Church, VA
#R. Castronova

Stevie R. Clinton
198 LIB C/1/6 Inf
Merced, CA
#Ron Ward

Gerard Colorske
123 Avn. Grp.
Pittsburgh, PA
#R. Castronova

Cory D. Comstock
523 Sig HHC
Waldport, OR
#R. Castronova

James J. Culhane
198 LIB 1/52 Inf
Winchester, MA
#Memb. Com.

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

Reed E Davis Jr.
198 LIB 1/52 Inf
Leavenworth, KS
#Memb. Com.

David J. Degov
198 LIB A/5/46 Inf
Burlington, MA
#Memb. Com.

Larry W. Bland
1 Cav 1 Sqd
Florence, MS
#R. Castronova

Michael L. Boley
11 LIB B/1/20 Inf
Wooster, OH
#R. Castronova

Roger W. Boyle
1 Infantry HHC/3/1
St. Johnsbury, VT
#Bernie Chase

Douglas W. Burnett
14 Arty 1/14 Art
Hartsburg, MO
#Memb. Com

Domenic A. Carroll
196 LIB
Florence, KY
#R. Castronova

Juan B. Castro
.55 Arty G Btry
San Antonio TX
#R. Castronova

Daniel J. Churinoff
196 LIB
Vernon Hills, IL
#R. Castronova

Robert Ciulla
198 LIB C/1/52 Inf
Lorain, OH
#Memb. Com.

Frank E. Clattenburg
Associate
Mesa, AZ
#PNC William Dunphy

Mike Cole
82 Arty 1/82 Arty
St. Louis, MO
#R. Castronova

Anthony B. Commander
14 Avn Bn 176 AHC
Anchorage, AK
#Memb. Com

Michael E. Criswell
16 Arty B/3/16
Woodsboro, MD
#R. Castronova

Walter F. Cullen
3 Infantry 4/3 Inf
Ipswich, MA
#R. Castronova

William H. Dailey
164 Infantry A Co.
Hayesville, NC
#Memb. Com.

Dennis DeGroot
11 LIB A/4/21 Inf
Alta Loma, CA
#Bernie Chase

William J. Diggins
245 F.A.
Buffalo, NY
#Bernie Chase

Robert E. Duesterhoeft
11 LIB D/3/1 Inf
San Carlos, CA
#R. Castronova

Paul A. Edwards
196 LIB 4/31 Inf
Martin, KY
#Memb. Com.

Steven A. Ellwood
3 Infantry C/4/3
Encinitas, CA
#Gary Noller-Gary

Johnny W. England Jr.
21 Infantry D/3/21
Colorado Springs, CO
#Lewis C. Turner

William K. Ferguson
11 LIB E/4/3 Inf
Birmingham, AL
#Memb. Com.

Lavelle Ford
23 Med Hq + A + C
Harker Heights, TX
#Fred H. Chinn

Johnson C. Gary
198 LIB B/5/46 Inf
Hickory, NC
#R. Castronova

Montrose C. Greene
132 Infantry C Co.
Media, PA
#Bernie Chase

Walter J. Grondalski
Associate
Lowell, MA
#Jim Buckle

William S. Hacker
196 LIB
Meridan, CT
#Bernie Chase

Charles F. Haussler
196 LIB
Sandy, UT
#R. Castronova

John F. Hodges
182 Infantry H Co.
Coltewah, TN
#Bernie Chase Memb.

Kenneth A. Howe Jr.
23 Adm
Edgewood, KY
#Eric J. Wadleigh

Martin C. Judd
11 LIB C/4/3 Inf
Brainerd, MN
#Bernie Chase

Keith J. Kolozie
11 LIB B/1/20 Inf
Naperville, IL
#Bernie Chase Memb.

Conrad P. Krueger
164 Infantry Hq.
Minnetonka, MN
#Bernie Chase

Allen C. Duglosch
196 LIB A/2/1 Inf
Kerrville, TX
#Ernie Carlson

Don Ehike
198 LIB A/5/46 Inf
West Bend, WI
#R. Castronova

Lawrence D. Engen
71 ASHC A Co.
Hazelhurst, WI
#R. Castronova

Generino Errichello
101 Med Reg A Co.
Quincy, MA
#Harry Bronstein

William D. Ferguson Jr.
11 LIB B/4/3 Inf
Washington, DC
#Ron Ward

Michael J. Garni
1 Cav 1 Sqd
Metuchen, NJ
#Bernie Chase

Gerald F. Goode
196 LIB C/2/1 Inf
Randolph, NY
#Bernie Chase

Daniel F. Griffin
196 LIB D/4/31 Inf
Palatine, IL
#Bernie Chase

Richard A. Haas
21 Infantry Co. D
Corpus Christi TX
#Memb. Com.

Roderick L. Hargo
23 Americal Hdq.
Miamisburg, OH
#R. Castronova

William E. N. Hawkins
11 LIB 52 Mid
Durham, NC
#Steve Dennison

Elliot G. Houser
82 Arty C/1/82
Johnstown, NY
#Bernie Chase

Joseph W. Ignarski
132 Infantry E Co.
Albuquerque, NM
#Lewis C. Turner

June E. Kodalen
Associate
Great Falls, MT
#Bernie Chase

Walter W. Krause
132 Infantry Hq/3
Chicago, IL
#R. Castronova

Harold A. Kuehl
196 LIB HHC/2/1 Inf
Princeton, IL
#Memb. Com.

NEW MEMBERS

Richard O. Larson
196 LIB C/1/46 Inf
Cupertino, CA
#R. Castronova

Duane D. Linduff
132 Infantry
Miami, OK
#R. Castronova

Aaron (Dan) Maier
23 Hdq Gen Staff
Kerrville, TX
#Ernie Carlson

David B. Mann
17 Cav F Tr 196 LIB
Toppenish, WA
#R. Castronova

Lyndin G. McCreary
164 Infantry F Co.
Carrington, ND
#R. Castronova

Larry W. McDonald
82 Arty A/3/82
Moundsville, WV
#Bernie Chase

Charles Mikaelian
121 Med Bn B Co.
Cranston, RI
#Memb. Com.

James E. O'Boyle
17 Cav F Troop
Chicago, IL
#Michael P. Ebert

John R. Paterson
182 Infantry L Co.
Wakefield, MA
#Donald Pray

Ray C. Pierce
196 LIB C/1/46 Inf
Aiken, SC
#R. Castronova

Arthur A. Reese
123 Aero Scout Inf B
Ransey, MN
#Les Hines

Gaetano T. Rizzo
247 F.A. Hdq Btry
Waltham, MA
#Jim Buckle

Howard C. Rood
198 LIB C/D/1/46 In
Kerrville, TX
#Ernie Carlson

Wilam J. Rosenthal
17 Cav F Troop
Winnisboro, TX
#Charles Rhodes

Bobby D. Santos
198 LIB A/1/52 Inf
Kalua, HI
#R. Castronova

Richard Shannon
198 LIB
Chicago, IL
#R. Castronova

Paul Letsch
17 Cav H Tr 198 LIB
Avenel, NJ
#W. Yarbrough

Roscoe L. Lipps
23 S+T
Fort Worth, TX
#R. Castronova

Arthur M. Maki
221 FA Bn Ser Btry
Marquette, MI
#Bernie Chase

Sam F. Mazzola
196 LIB 4/31 Inf
Greenbush, MI
#R. Castronova

James I. McDaniel
174 AHC 116 AHC
Springfield, VA
#Jay Roth

Martin R. Meier
20 Inf 1/20 23 S+T
Montclair, CA
#R. Castronova

Robert R. Mitchell
196 LIB
Roanoke, VA
#Memb. Com.

Larry W. Osborne
196 LIB B/3/21 Inf
Rockwood, TN
#R. Castronova

Jack D. Penland
536 Sig Heavy Con.
Hot Springs Village, AR
#Donald Pray

Harry CF. Pruitt
11 LIB 4/21 Inf
Woodlands, TX
#Memb. Com.

Paul E. Reissig
196 LIB A Co.
Mendon, NY
#Memb. Com.

Louis G. Rizzo
1 Arm Cav 1 Sqd
Alta Loma, CA
#Bernie Chase Memb.

John L. Rorabaugh
26 Sig
Lancaster, PA
#Larry LeFever

Kenneth E. Sandquist
198 LIB 1/52 Inf
Cambridge, IA
#Bernie Chase

Steven C. Sells
11 LIB C/6/11 Arty
Lancaster, OH
#Frank Keels

Robert A. Shea
164 Infantry D Co.
Vera Beach, FL
#Bernie Chase

John P. Smeekens
198 LIB 1/52 Inf
Clinton Township, MI
#Memb. Com.

Richard L. Smith
23 Div Arty
Gladwin, MI
#Memb. Com.

James T. Stringer
11 LIB
Ft. Leavenworth KS
#R. Castronova

Eugene D. Umbenhauer
11 LIB B/1/20 Inf
Pine Grove, PA
#Memb. Com.

John B. Van Endenburg
164 Infantry M Co.
Haskell, NJ
#Bernie Chase

Kenneth F. Vogt
196 LIB A/1/46 Inf
Kinnelon, NJ
#Memb. Com.

George Vrattos
21 Recon Troop
Islip Terrace, NY
#Harold Gigli

Wendall S. Whitmore
180 FA 21 Rec 26 S
Aberdeen, MD
#Bernie Chase

John H. Wilburn
247 F.A. C Btry
Trenton, IL
#John E. Schotemyer

Gale E. Wilson
57 Inf Scout Dog Pl
Harrisonburg, VA
#Bernie Chase

James Winkler
23 M.P.
Heber, UT
#Memb. Com.

Randolph M. Wright
196 LIB C/3/21 Inf
Birmingham, MI
#R. Castronova

Robert L. Smith
11 LIB 4/21 Inf
Tuscon, AZ
#R. Castronova

Paul S. Spilberg
196 LIB Sp Fs 1/46
#Fred Cowburn

Arthur M. Sylvia
82 Arty Hq/1/82
Onset, MA
#Bernie Chase

Glenn F. Underwood
21 Mech. Cav
Wildwood, FL
#Bernie Chase

Alex D. Vecchio
246 F.A.
Homer, NY
#Memb. Com.

Ken Vohringer
7 Infantry D/1/7 In
Franklinville, NJ
#R. Castronova

Robert F. Walls
6 Infantry C/1/6 In
Dexter, GA
#R. Castronova

David L. Wifall
196 LIB B/1/46 Inf
Missoula, MT
#Memb. Com.

John J. Williams
11 LIB 4/3 Inf
West Seneca, NY
#Bernie Chase

James D. Wimberley
11 LIB B/4/21 Inf
Dundee, FL
#Roger E. Sudbury

Melvin Winters
132 ASHC
Midland Park, NJ
#Memb. Com.

Daniel D. Zoller Jr.
196 LIB C/4/31 Inf
Atlanta, GA
#Memb. Com.

MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP
We have been enrolling new members

AMERICAL SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

Norma D. Sellers
In Memory Of
Peter A. Sellers

Fernando Vera
Richard Larson

Michael E. Criswell

Alex D. Vecchio

Marion Lajeunesse
In Memory Of
Theodore Lajeunesse
Peter Asacker

William K. Ferguson

William Picardy
In Memory Of
David L. Recob

Michael S. Filbin

247 Field Artillery Reunion
In Memory Of

Grace Chandler
Walter Henderson
Kathleen Huegel
Horace Stroud

James Culhane

Sam Mazzola

Maurice L. Beauregard

Ronald D. Hopper

Arthur L. Hanley III

George E. Tuttle

Domingo Vasquez

Thomas A. Supplee

Victor Kratzke

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

Applications for the 1995 award must be in my hands by May 1, 1995.

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

MEMORIAL GIFTS

An ideal way to remember an old friend, a buddy you had in the service, a family member, or some buddy that gave his life for his country, would be to make a contribution to the Americal Foundation Fund.

All gift are tax deductible.

For more information contact Ron Ward.

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

I want to remind all of our members that applications for the ADVA Scholarship are due at my address no later than May 1, 1995. The Trustees will hold a meeting during the Reunion weekend in Chicago. At that time we will review the progress of the fund and consider any amendments to the by-laws that have been offered in the past year. At the moment I have received one from a member who suggests that we make a separate scholarship for any learning disabled student that might apply. Should you have an amendment, send it to me at my home address. Also if you require a copy of the by-laws I can send that to you.

You should all be aware that we have three school teachers here in St. Louis who review the students applications and recommend to the Trustees who they feel should be selected as the winner. These teachers are not connected to the ADVA in any way and do not know any of the applicant. By using this method it can not be said that any of the applicants receive favorable treatment. In the past two years, a \$500 scholarship was won by the same applicant. As our by-laws read right now, if that student applied again this year, and I believe she will, and should be selected as the top applicant, she is certainly eligible for the award. This is something that I have received a complaint about and we will be debating a change in the by-laws on that matter.

Do not hesitate to have your children or grandchildren apply. In the past we have received only four of five application. We could use some more competition.

Any questions? My address follows:

ADVA Scholarship Fund Chairman
Ronald Ward
[REDACTED]
St. Louis, MO 63123-6510

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS?

The Americal Scholarship Foundation is a non-profit organization and any contributions made to this Fund is tax deductible.

If you have any ideas on a fund-raiser for the Scholarship Fund please contact Ron Ward.

The fund is growing but I would like to see it grow more rapidly as that would enable us to award more scholarships.

I would appreciate any ideas on comments that would be for the good of the AMERICAL SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION.

Remember, this is a legacy that will be a memorial to all men that served in the Americal at any time.

Sincerely,
Ron Ward

A MIND IS A TERRIBLE THING TO WASTE

ARTHUR R. WOOD CHAPTER

SOUTH-EAST CHAPTER

AL, FL, GA, NC, SC, TN

REGIONAL - Elmer E. Matola - COMMANDER

[REDACTED]
Hernando Beach, FL 34442
Tel. [REDACTED]

SOUTH MID WEST REGIONAL CHAPTER CHAPTER

AR, LA, MS, OK, TX

REGIONAL - Ernest B. Carlson - COMMANDER

[REDACTED]
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
Telephone 210-997-9486

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CHAPTER

IL, IN, MI, MN, WI

REGIONAL - Rush G. Propper - COMMANDER

[REDACTED]
Swartz Creek, MI 48473

FAR WEST REGIONAL CHAPTER

AZ, CA, CO, HI, NV, UT, NM

REGIONAL - Joe D. Feeler - COMMANDER

[REDACTED]
Albuquerque, NM 87110
Telephone [REDACTED]

WILLIAM F. MCGOLDRICK-NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, RI

REGIONAL - Harold J. Gigli - COMMANDER

[REDACTED]
Carver, MA 02330-1809

EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER

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

REGIONAL - Stephen N. Dennison - COMMANDER

[REDACTED]
Pittsburgh, PA 15227
Telephone [REDACTED]

CENTRAL MID WEST CHAPTER

IA KS MO NE ND SD

REGIONAL - Ronald L. Ward - COMMANDER

[REDACTED]
St. Louis, MO 63123

NORTH WEST CHAPTER

ALASKA, WASHINGTON, OREGON, IDAHO,
MONTANA, WYOMING

REGIONAL - Lloyd J. Morrell - COMMANDER

[REDACTED]
Redmond, OR 97756-9612

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

COMMANDER

SEC/TREAS

Harold J. Gigli
[REDACTED]
Carver, MA 02330-1809

Carlos A. Pola
[REDACTED]
Sandwich, MA 02563

In the last month the Chapter picked up quite a few members. We are still looking for more members from the New England States. If you wish to join send a check for \$5.00 made out to the New England Chapter ADVA, to the Commander whose address is listed above.

EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER

COMMANDER
Stephen Dennison
[REDACTED]
Pittsburgh, PA 15227
Phone [REDACTED]

SEC/TREAS
William A. Gold
[REDACTED]

Baltimore, MD 21209
Phone [REDACTED]

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

DC DE MD KY NJ NY OH PA VA WV

I would like to start off with this newsletter by wishing everyone a very Happy New Year. At the present time we have a total of 429 members in the Chapter. The breakdown is as follows: 292 Vietnam Veterans, 131 World War II veterans, and six associate members. So, as you can see, our membership is growing.

When the Chapter membership increases our national membership grows as well. If every member of the Chapter would recruit one new member you can easily see that our Chapter would double. As national membership chairman this year, I am asking that everyone please try to recruit new members.

This year our Chapter Reunion is going to be in Louisville, Kentucky on September 7 thru 10, 1995. Further information on this Reunion in the AMERICAL NEWSLETTER and also in individual correspondence at a later date, from your Chapter Commander.

As everyone knows that in June of this year I will be sworn in as National Commander. With deep regret I will not seek the office of Chapter Commander this September. I am making this announcement following very deep thought. But, it comes to a point when you must pass the leadership on to someone else. So I wish, at this time, for all members to think about who they would like to nominate for Chapter Commander this year. Anyone who wants to nominate, or to run for this office, can write to me at the above address. But, please remember that you must attend the September Chapter Reunion. Our Chapter did not have a Reunion this past year because we sponsored the National Convention--which was a great success!

Our Chapter is in good shape financially. I cannot give you the exact breakdown on the revenue but the new Commander in September will give you a financial report.

Continues on Page 7

CHAPTER NEWS

EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER NEWS (Conclusion)

Over the past five years I have had great cooperation from all officers and members. I sincerely want to thank everyone for that. The people I have met and the experience have gained, will never be forgotten.

Sincerely,
Steve Dennison
Chapter Commander
Eastern Regional Chapter

DUES ARE DUE!

Dues \$3.00

NAME _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____ UNIT _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Eastern Regional Chapter ADVA
William A. Gold
Mail to: _____
Baltimore, MD 21209

If you would like an updated copy of our roster please make note on you return. Also include any nominations for officers for the coming year and any comments you wish to make.

A JOB WELL DONE!

The Americal Division Veterans Association, and especially the Eastern Regional Chapter, owe Steve Dennison a big round of applause and "THANK YOU" for a job well done.

PNC Pete Messina did a great job in establishing the foundation for the ERC and he left it in able hands when he turned it over to Steve Dennison.

Steve has been a hard worker for the ADVA and also for his Chapter. The committee led by Steve, put on a tremendous National Convention in Fallsburg last June. It went off without a hitch and with a minimum of complaints. Anyone that has been involved with an undertaking of this kind knows what that means---a job well done!

Steve always has his reports and articles for the Americal Newsletter in on time. Under his leadership the Chapter has grown to be the largest of our Chapters.

Steve has been selected to "move-up" in the top offices and next June he will be our National Commander. The ERC has lost a good man to National but the selection of Steve Dennison to be our Commander was an excellent choice.

Thanks Steve---and best wishes in your new office.

EACH CHAPTER'S FINANCES ARE SEPARATE FROM NATIONAL FINANCES. CHAPTER SET THEIR OWN DUES AND FUND THEIR OWN REUNIONS.

CHAPTER NEWS

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

Regional Commander Sec/Treas
Joe D. Feeler Gino Massagli
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Albuquerque, NM 87110 Eureka, CA 95501

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

Our plans are progressing for our next Chapter Reunion in September of 1995.

Lew Turner has been experiencing health problems but at present his condition is stable. How about all the members of the Chapter sending him a card? His address:

Lewis C. Turner
[REDACTED]
Oroville, CA 95966-5643

We now have 185 members in the Chapter. Both Gino and I are working every day to bring our membership up to 200 by the time of our Reunion September.

How about some help?

Joe Feeler
Chapter Commander

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

Ronald L. Ward Chapter Commander

The Central Mid-West Chapter suffered a great loss with the death of David Recob. He was the "everything", the "glue", that held the Chapter together. Now we must reorganize and get the Chapter up and running again.

If you have any suggestions or are willing to take an office, or participate in the running of the Chapter, please contact me now:

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

NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

The Americal Newsletter is now being published four (4) time a year:

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

Material for the Newsletter must be in the office by January 15th, April 15th, July 15th and October 15th, for the respective issue.

Material for the next issue is due by April 15, 1995

GET YOUR COPY IN ON TIME!

AMERICAL MUSEUM

MASSACHUSETTS NATIONAL GUARD MILITARY MUSEUM

On Saturday January 21, 1995, the Massachusetts National Guard held the grand opening of their Military Museum and dedication ceremony, at the Salisbury Street Armory, Worcester, Mass. There were over 650 people in attendance. Thirteen members of the ADVA were present. Many other ADVA members had planned to be there but by the time their checks arrived the building was sold out.

General Raymond A. Vezina was the host and Major Thomas J. Sellers was the Master of Ceremonies. We, of the Americal, owe General Vezina and Major Sellers a great deal for all the assistance they gave to us in relocating the Americal Museum.

Among the military units present was the Massachusetts National Guard Ceremonial Unit who performed in Colonial and present day military uniforms. The Massachusetts National Guard 215th Army Band performed before, during and after the dinner. From the United States Army Band, Washington, DC. came the Strolling Strings. This group of about 20 violinists played musical selections at different tables throughout the hall.

The large room of the Americal Museum was open and many of those who attended the affair came and inspected it. Al Doig, Ken Turner and all the other members put in a lot of their time getting this room ready. They did a FANTASTIC job.

There are still five rooms to be rehabilitated before our section is ready. When this work is completed we will have dedication of our Museum. It will be held on Saturday May 20, 1995. Try and be there.



MASSACHUSETTS NATIONAL GUARD CEREMONIAL UNIT

AMERICAL MUSEUM

I would like to report that the Americal Museum is coming along in great shape in our new site at Worcester. Last Saturday, January 7th, I drove up to meet PNC Al Doig, PNC Bernard Chase, PNC Kenneth Turner and a crew of members who were setting up the large center of our quarters there. It has been completely renovated and is wonderful shape. The floor has been sanded and varnished, the walls painted and the ceiling, that is stamped metal, completely restored.

Display cases were being cleaned and stocked with artifacts from the cartons that had been stored since the move from Fort Devens. The Roll of Honor and the Medal of Honor plaques have been hung over the fireplace as a central exhibit. One end of the large room, some 30' x 39', has a wall of display cases, probably an old rifle cabinet 24 feet long, with drawers beneath and room above to display other pieces such as the large display of model planes, ships and so forth, which never were appreciated in our former museum.



FIREPLACE IN THE MAIN ROOM

Off the main room, which is entered from the hall on the second floor, through double doors, there are two rooms in the front facing south. These have been described as "guard rooms" and are nearly 12' x 15' in area. Behind one of them is another room, 12' x 12' in which kitchen equipment has been put temporarily.

Behind the main room, entered through a single door at the end of the cabinets, is a large 12' x 12' room. Behind this room is another room of the same size that was formerly used as officer's quarters. This second room also has a fireplace. Leading off from this rear room is a larger room with an adjoining lavatory. All together we have what appears to be a great deal more space than we had at Devens. The other rooms are not finished as yet, but with the main room set up I would think we will be ready before long for the dedication.



WORKING CREW

FRONT ROW: JOSEPH ANDERSON - PNC ROBERT THORNTON
BACK ROW: PNC KENNETH TURNER - PND ALFRED DOIG

AMERICAL MUSEUM

Great credit should go to the work of the three Past Commanders who have worked tirelessly from the start: Alfred Doig, Kenneth Turner and Bernard Chase. All three have done wonders in cataloguing, packing and supervising the move as a whole. Al Doig, in particular, has been the liaison with the National Guard Committee which has overseen the move and has attended the committee meetings despite the long drive to Worcester and returning at ten at night.



THE LADIES

FRONT ROW: ETHEL THORNTON - MRS. JOSEPH ANDERSON
BACK ROW: JUNE DOIG - JANET TURNER

All of us in the Americal Association owe a deep vote of thanks to these men for their efforts in preserving the history of our division.

The front of the Armory has a banner hanging from a turret which advertises to the world that this is the home of the National Guard Museum and also the Americal Museum with the Americal insignia displayed on it.

We will keep you informed of progress and look forward to seeing many of you at the dedication.

Yours truly,
William McLaughlin
Committee Chairman

AMERICAL MUSEUM DEDICATION

Plans are under way to dedicate the new AMERICAL MUSEUM in Worcester on May 20, 1995, starting at 10:00 A.M.. There is plenty of parking in the area on Saturdays. Refreshments will be served!

To reach the Museum from the East take the Mass. Pike to Exit 11-A (Rte 495 N.) Travel along 495 N. to Exit 25-B (Rte 290 W.) travel along 290 W. to Exit 18 (Rte 9 Leicester-Westboro) Take right at end of ramp/lights. Bear to the right. Armory is right there.

From the West. Take Mass Pike to Exit 10 (Rte 290 E.) Travel along 290 E. to Exit 17. At end of ramp take left. Travel along Rte 9 to lights and take a right. At the next set of lights bear to the left.

REUNIONS REUNIONS

COMPANY F 182 INFANTRY

April 30, 1995 - Sunday Afternoon

Cottage Crest Restaurant
Waltham, Massachusetts

CALL

Bill Vinci
Joe Papa
Jack McIsaac

WRITE
Joseph Papa

West Newton, MA 02165-1422

VETERANS APPRECIATION WEEK

VETS

Chesterfield, MO 63017-5743

CALL

VETS is hosting the 50th Anniversary Celebration of World War II's victory in the Pacific. The State of Hawaii is issuing a special welcome to all veterans and plans are under way for a memorable and fun filled experience. We're making plans to strike a comfortable balance between recognition and recreation. We expect in excess of three thousand veterans and their families.

The event will be known in Hawaii as Veterans Appreciation Week, September 20-25, 1995. To truly recognize the veterans we want to provide an affordable trio, therefore we have included: A Welcome Cocktail Reception; "Arizona Memorial and National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific" Tour; Farewell Dinner and Dance Banquet and Shuttle Buses to the host hotel. Additionally, a variety of activities will be available: ceremonies, sightseeing, dignitaries and special guest speakers. Of course, unique shopping experiences and tantalizing cuisine await your arrival.

Who is VETS? We are a military reunion information service for the American Legion and The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. We track, plan or coordinate over 12,000 outfit reunions each year for nearly 7 million of our nation's 27 million veterans. We also operate Finders/Seekers (TM) buddy location service.

We strongly encourage you to consider becoming an important part of the memorable observance. In essence, what a great way to say "thanks" to the men and women of our Armed Forces.

PLEASE CONTACT ME AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE

COMPANY L 164 INFANTRY

JUNE 16, 1995 FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA

For further information contact:

Thurston D. Nelson
[REDACTED]
Hillsboro, ND 58045

164 INFANTRY REGIMENT MEMORIAL ADDRESS
Dr. George M. Christensen

Today is a momentous day for North Dakota as well as a momentous day for the 164th Infantry. As we dedicate this memorial to the memory of those who served their country by service in the North Dakota National Guard before the turn of the century and made a remarkable record. Then we remember those who served on the Mexican border in 1916 and those who served so well in Europe in defeating the German Army in World War I. During the so called "Dirty 30's" many people forgot about our veterans until the storm clouds of war gathered again. The National Guard maintained its strength because of the patriotism of the people and that \$1 per drill was welcome pay at that time.

My employers, who had served in the North Dakota National Guard, encouraged my brother and I to also serve which we did for almost three years before the mobilization. Then in February 1941, the 164th Infantry was called into Federal service for training. We all went willingly, and served at Camp Claiborne in Louisiana, because we knew it would only be for a year. When the Day of Infamy occurred with the disastrous attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 we knew we would not be home in a year. The next day I was sitting in the Orderly Room writing my weekly news column for the Williston Herald when an announcement came over the loud speaker telling each company to send someone out to the training area to tell the company commanders to bring the troops back to camp to pack up and get ready to travel to the West Coast. I assumed that we were supposed to go to the Philippines or some other Pacific area but there was no transportation available when we got to San Francisco. So, we took turns standing guard duty on the beach. Just before Christmas we again loaded on a train and headed for Umatilla Ordnance Depot in Oregon. There we were sent out to the East, to place a squad of men on each bridge or tunnel on the Northern Pacific Railroad from Walla Walla, Washington to the North Dakota line to guard against sabotage. In many cases, we were greeted warmly by the local citizens as there was a great wave of patriotism in our country. Scarcely a home did not have a member of the family in the service or contributing to the war effort in some way - either in a defense plant or farming.

After 2 1/2 months of guard duty on the railroad in the northwest, we were sent to Fort Ord in California where we received replacements to fill our ranks and then we shipped to the island of New Caledonia in the South Pacific, aboard the President Coolidge, the finest American ship afloat. There was no enemy here and we were joined by two other regiments, and other units, and trained for combat. This was the formation of the Americal Division--AMERICANS in CALEDONIA, the only one formed on foreign soil and the only one without a number.

When the 164th Infantry left Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, it also left the 34th Division, our parent organization.

On October 9, 1942 the 164th Infantry left New Caledonia for Guadalcanal arriving on October 13, 1942, to re-enforce the Marines who had been there since August 7th. Some of the Marines ridiculed the National Guard, but after the first battle their attitude changed when they found out that

CONTINUES ON PAGE 11

164th INFANTRY MEMORIAL (Conclusion)

the 164 would not retreat in the face of enemy fire. I believe that our people, most of whom came from midwestern towns and rural areas, were accustomed to doing what they were told and also knew how to work together.

On the 25th and 26th of October 1942, the Regiment was involved in the heaviest fighting of the Guadalcanal campaign. The Regiment held key sectors around Henderson Field and repelled the attacking Japanese forces. Members of the Regiment killed nearly one third of the Japanese forces while losing only 26 members killed and 52 wounded.

After this battle, a letter of congratulations was sent to the unit from General Alexander Vandegrift, Commander of the First Marine Division. The 164th also received a Navy Presidential Unit Citation as a result of this action.

After the battle, there were mopping up operations and the members continued fighting isolated groups of enemy soldiers on the island. In the last week of November the Regiment was committed to the Matanikau Campaign. This was the most costly week of the war for the Regiment. Losses were 100 members killed in action and 200 wounded. Mopping up operations and patrols continued until March of 1943 at which time the 164th was relieved and moved to Fiji Islands to receive replacements and recuperate from the effects of combat and of malaria that affected many of the troops.

In December of 1943 the Regiment again boarded ships and were landed on Bougainville, an island in the Northern Solomons. Here it took up perimeter positions against a pending Japanese attack. The first few weeks were rather quiet and the activity consisted mostly of patrols - looking for the enemy. On March 8, 1944 the Japanese attacked the perimeter to celebrate the Emperor's birthday. Fighting continued for two weeks and again our losses were high---35 members killed in action.

Gradually the enemy was destroyed and in January of 1945 the Regiment sailed for Leyte in the Philippines Islands. During our stay here the Regiment eliminated over two thousand of the enemy but had 86 men killed in action. Later the First and Second Battalions moved to the island of Cebu. While engaging the enemy for two weeks our losses were 19 members killed in action. The Third Battalion landed on Bohol spending two weeks there and then returning to Cebu after loosing 7 men. Toward the end of April the First and Third Battalions landed on Negros Island to secure the capitol, Dumagette. This was the first combat landing ever made by the men of these two battalions and was the beginning of the last campaign. While we lost 33 members killed in action, the two battalions accounted for 527 of the enemy.

Starting in mid-May, the Third Battalion spent about a month on Mindanao performing guard duty before returning to Cebu. Here the Regiment received replacements and prepared for the invasion of Japan. After the city of Hiroshima was bombed, with the first atomic bomb, and Nagasaki two days later, the Japanese surrendered and the war was over. In September the Americal Division left Cebu and headed for Japan for occupation duty. This was quite different from what they had prepared for.

On the 24th of November 1945, the Americal Division was officially disbanded and the 164th Infantry was designated as inactive and most of the North Dakotans made it home by Christmas of 1945. The Regiment had spent nearly 600 days in combat and had lost 325 members killed in action and 1193 wounded. The members received many decorations and made a great record that will always be remembered by anyone studying the history of World War II.

The 164th Infantry was again ordered into Federal service on the 16th of January 1952, for service in the Korean War. The Regiment did not go to Korea as a unit but many members served honorably and well in that campaign.

The 164 Infantry was released from Federal service on the 2nd of December 1954 and reverted to State control. The Regiment was broken up on the 15th of April 1955, converted and reorganized into engineer battalions as it is today.

The camaraderie that the members of the 164 felt during World War II will be matched by very few other organizations I'm sure. Even those members who were brought in from other areas as replacements feel very much a part of our 164 family and we're certainly glad to have them and appreciate those who do come to our annual reunions and keep in contact with us.

This memorial which we dedicate today is something that will provide us with memories that we shall treasure for the rest of our lives. We certainly owe a great debt to all of the people who were involved in the planning and designing of this memorial that we dedicate today. I think that we should also feel very grateful to the North Dakota National Guard for all the work they did in developing this Veteran's Cemetery when we did not have a Veteran's Cemetery in the state of North Dakota.

I'm very pleased and very honored to be invited to speak at this occasion and I thank all of you. I'm sure that all of us will remember this day for the rest of our lives.

Thank you all very much for being here.



REAR VIEW OF THE MONUMENT
NORTH DAKOTA VETERAN'S CEMETERY

A COMPANY 164 INFANTRY

I would like to thank the Americal Division Veterans Association for accepting me as a member. I joined the Americal Division in the Fiji Islands and served with them in Bougainville, Leyte, Cebu, Negros Oriental and Japan.

I was pleasantly surprised when I received my first issue of the Americal Newsletter and found a picture of myself and my companions. This picture brought back memories of Bougainville and Hills 608, 260, 250, 600, and 1111. The picture I am referring to is in the November - December 1994 issue, page 21. I can remember all the faces but a couple of names escape me and the spelling may be incorrect.



STANDING L-R HAINES, DAVE O'SHAUNSEY, WILLIAM DAILEY (me). KNEELING L - R FLOYD WATSON, ?, JOHN D. CREAMER, AND ?.

Ed Note: William, certainly glad that you joined us. I will run the picture again now that we have a few of the names. I am very sorry to say that the member that sent in the picture, Al Marrone, formerly of A Company, passed away recently.

I searched our files but none of the men show up in our membership rolls.

F COMPANY 164 INFANTRY REGIMENT

I had served in the North Dakota National Guard for twelve years prior to the unit being inducted into Federal service on February 11, 1941. The 164 Regiment was assigned to the 34th Division and we trained at Camp Claiborne, LA.

My two brothers were also in my unit and after shipping overseas on April 7, 1942 we arrived on New Caledonia and became part of the Americal Division.

During the battle for Guadalcanal my younger brother was killed. My other brother was severely wounded and died later due to his wounds.

Two days after my brother was killed I was hit by seven machine gun bullets and spent twenty seven (27) months in Army and Navy hospitals. I was a guinea pig and was put on penicillin before the Armed Forces had accepted it. That was the only thing that saved my arm and leg.

Lyndin G. McCreary

E COMPANY 164 INFANTRY
NEGROS

Leyte. We had one man who was subject to chronic motion sickness on the ship. He used up all the bottled oxygen to keep alive and we had to stop at Hollandia to take him off and pick up some odd yellow looking fellows out of a hospital who were being sent back to join their outfits on Leyte. Atabrine had a way of turning skin yellow. Course you knew that! When I got off the ship on Leyte, the only action I saw there was a good crap game going on near the beach in which I dropped ten bucks so fast my head started to spin. Then I had to fight the mosquitoes and geckos. My 19th Birthday was the day FDR died so to keep any of you younger troops from digging into history, it was 12 Apr. 1945. The Division was already on Cebu at that time and I was sent to Cebu to join them. Could hear the action but Easy Company was on draw down when I joined them and a couple of days later we went aboard LCI's for our joy ride to Dumagete. My Company landed North of town. We hit a sandbar about 30-40 yards from the beach and when the side ramp went down, about the 2nd man off was a Doctor...Was a Capt. that looked like Peter Lorre and about same height...5'4" or thereabouts. He stepped off end of the ramp which just happened to be on the downslope side of the bar and all we could see as he went toward the beach was the tip of his .30 cal. carbine moving out of the water. Guess it took him half a dozen steps to get his head above water and a few more steps he stopped and turned toward the LCI...waved his right arm and shouted, come on in the water's fine! Believe he said the water's fine as frog hair but not sure about the frog hair. **BSEG** Incidentally, we did not wear our steel pots, just jungle caps. Had unwritten orders to treat every individual we met as an enemy and to not take chances...in other words, shoot first and ask questions later. The first night we were west of Dumagete and had 3 trucks run our perimeter. Two came into the perimeter before the seaward 50's opened up on the 3rd one and by that time the first two were headed for the hills outside our perimeter and everyone opened up on them. Am not sure where G Co. was that first night Jay, but if you were on that perimeter you know what I mean. You may even have a better memory of that first night than I do and can clarify my ramblings. Seems like count next AM was them -18 us Zero.

Jake in Sunny Seaside, near Ft. Ord.

Zane Jacobs

(PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD)

E COMPANY 164 INFANTRY
TO THE EDITOR

In response to queries in the November - December 1994 issue of the Newsletter. First of all the picture of Col. Taylor was miscaptioned as Capt. Taylor.

You are correct on the caps. We wore a small mechanics type hat. (There was a time or two when I did wish I had the old pot though!) As to shooting anyone wearing a helmet--that sounds like something our of Hollywood.

My Company was not the one mentioned in "Under the Southern Cross". (Running into 50 Japs or so.) (Conclusion on next page)

TO THE EDITOR (Conclusion)

We had many successful ambushes of Japs, but one of the oddest was a platoon patrol led by Charles D. Ross of my Company. Charley caught several Japs swimming in the Torokina without leaving a guard. They were cleaned up and Charley brought in all of their equipment. If you want further on this, enclosed is Charley's address. Charley stayed in the Army and holds all three Combat Infantryman Badges. He retired a Colonel.

I had many good officers. Milt Shedd--who started Sea World, Clayt Kingston who became a leader in Hormel Co. and many others. At one time I was the sole surviving officer of E Company and after a night call got two men made Lts. One was killed a few days later.

My bitterness stems from the feeling of being hamstrung by our own brass who had little or no knowledge of what was going on in the field. They wanted us to do the job, but kept us from doing it by a stupid set of rules. What rules in combat? And to get three of my men wounded for only seven Japs. Frustrating.

Sincerely,
Charles Walker

Ed Note: Thanks for writing. I spent four years in a line company and had a great deal of respect for my officers. One great officer I served with was David J. O'Rourke. He came from Fond du Lac Wisconsin and shipped out with the 164. He was commissioned in New Caledonia and joined E Company, 182 on Fiji. Dave was awarded a Distinguished Cross for action on Bougainville. One helluva officer!

Read another reply on your letter else where in the Newsletter.

COMPANY G 164 INFANTRY
TOKYO

The automobiles in Tokyo were all run by charcoal or wood burners. Was a funny sight to see the driver stop the car, open the trunk and feed wood or whatever to the burner. The buildings there were hit by bombs in no order. Some were up and the ones next door down. On the Ginza Strip all the stores were open for business as usual. 10 Yen to the buck (occupation money) was well in force. All this after being there a few weeks. The Pom Pom girls were on the strip, in normal stores, and seemed well respected. Not to be confused with Geisha girls who were of another trade. Who knows, the Shadow says. The Imperial Hotel was up and I spent one night there. The johns were hard on the knees, as they were two inches off the floor. In the basement, they had the steam bath. People did not wear clothes. Remember, this was 1945. We landed at Tokyo harbor and debarked at about midnight. We drove through the city in the rear of trucks and the people were lined up on both sides by the thousands. The other strange thing is that everyone of them had their backs to us. Found out later that this was the sign of surrender. The Americal Division was the first Army Unit to land by ship. There was a small advanced outfit that came in by air.

P.S. At the time the steam baths were off limits to us poor G.I.'s

Jay A. Roth

(PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD)

DID YOU KNOW THIS MAN?

CAPTAIN ANDREW H. PANETTIERE
MEDICAL CORPS, UNITED STATE ARMY

John M. Panettiere is trying to contact anyone that knew his father, Captain Andrew H. Panettiere who served as a Battalion Surgeon with the 164 Infantry.

Captain Panettiere was killed while serving on Guadalcanal. It is believed that he was with the third battalion and died when Japanese artillery and mortar fire hit the Command Post. Ltc. Hall was wounded and four other officers were killed.

John Panettiere was four years old when his father died on Guadalcanal and so did not know his father. He is interested in learning as much as he can about his dad, especially his service with the Americal Division.

If you have any information that you are willing to share with John, please contact:

Will Hill Tankersley
[REDACTED]
Montgomery, AL 36101

ELECTRONIC BULLETIN BOARD

Fellow Americal Veterans: A group of your fellow veterans have been exchanging experiences about their time in the military and their present lives. This group has been using their personal computers to communicate with veterans on a daily basis using a National Bulletin Board service. We have found one that offers nationwide coverage for \$14.95 per Mo. with E-Mail and a Military Bulletin Board that lists us under Americal. That service is Prodigy. To join up, you only need an IBM compatible or Apple Macintosh computer with a modem and no communications software package is necessary. To sign up, call 1-800-PRODIGY and join us. You might find a lost buddy.

2/1 196th 68-69 Spencer Baba
B/3/1 11th 69-70 Charles Mankin
Co. G 164th WW11 Jay Roth [REDACTED]

Our Past National Commander John "Dutch" DeGroot is on also and a good time is had by all. Let's go guys, you can't go wrong!!!

Jay Roth



WE WERE SO YOUNG!
JAY ROTH - NOVEMBER 1945

132 INFANTRY L COMPANY

NEW CALEDONIA

Thank you for sending me the Americal Newsletter,

Salute to your magnificent 101, later 125th QM Co. I can testify to your many amazing operations. The history by General Noonan, coupled with some of your writings to me and the board, recall those days after landing in New Caledonia when we marched out of Noumea to pastures or other open spaces, and set our camp. It seemed a long time before we received any food, and we foraged as best we could. When your trucks began to arrive, it was like Thanksgiving. Same food, but food.

Later my platoon, and others, unloaded ships for hours at a time, some times all night. As the docks filled up we pushed the piles aside with bulldozers, and unloaded some more. I had never examined a bulldozer before, much less operated one. But, I had one of your men show me how, and I relieved him for some much needed rest. I learned to stand on a weight of an unloading cable, and be lifted up, over, and down into various holds of the ships. I worked all night on Easter Eve of 1942, and watched a glorious Easter sunrise from the bridge of a freighter.

I have commented to you before that Col. Walker visited us at Koumac, and sent us a supply of officers tents.

I have just finished "Under the Southern Cross" which gives a wider version of our origin, Task 6814 and campaigns. Since "Orchids" only covered the 132nd Infantry, it went into more detail about our part in the whole affair, starting from Tennessee, Brooklyn, Melbourne, Ballarat, New Caledonia, Guadalcanal, to home. Your friendship and wisdom has been a blessing to all of us on this board. You and Doc have 'done good' while Jay is away. It will be good if all of us could meet personally at the Convention. Again, thanks. Bill.

William Cooper
Co. L 132nd WW11

(PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD)

125 QUARTERMASTER
NO NUMBER

My thoughts on the Americal was how did we manage to get away so long with out a number. I was in New Caledonia in 42 when HQ's ran a contest for a name to call this new division. We were units from Task Force 6814. So a man took Ameri from America and added Cal from Caledonia coming up with Americal. The General liked it. Now this Div., has the honor (?) of being formed on four different occasions each time during a war (call it what you will) And never serving in peacetime. It just amounts to when someone would notice there was a Div., running around blowing this and that up, killing people, getting killed, meeting pretty girls, drinking great (no name) stuff, and all that with out a number. Couldn't let that happen any longer so we got the 23rd Inf Div title. Right! I think so. Keep posting, good group here. Paul in So Cal

Paul Santogeanis
125 QM WW11

(PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD)

132 INFANTRY

BACK TO CEBU
OCTOBER 1994

182 INFANTRY

Fulfilling their ambition of many years, Edd Kueker, A Company, 132 Infantry, and Gil Dempsey, E Company, 182 Infantry, returned to Cebu on October 21, 1994 following a Valour Tour of Luzon and attending the 50th anniversary of the Leyte landing. We believe we were the only AMERICAL veterans at that event. While our tour left Cebu on October 22nd we stayed until October 26th.

Fifty years produced many changes in the Philippines. The wartime population of 17MM increased to 63MM today. Cebu City's wartime population of 150M increased to 800M today. Five Cebuan cities are near or over 100M in population: Manabe, Danca, Lapu-Lapu, Toledo, Talisay. More people and more vegetation in the country is quite noticeable. Lack of emission controls, plus cooking fires create smog in Cebu City at times.

Landing at Cebu airport in a 737 from Tacloban, Leyte, beat coming ashore in a landing craft. The airport, quite large and better than the Manila airport complex, is located on Mactan Island, which is now connected by a lengthy bridge to the Cebu mainland. The city has much traffic and many traffic lights.

We had forgotten the heat which can reach 100 degrees and 100% humidity. Lodged at the Cebu Plaza Hotel, located a half mile above the abandoned Lahug Airdrome, we experienced no guilt feeling at the A/C comfort, and bottled water on the whole trip kept us from getting sick.

Our tour showed us historical sites we never knew as GI's: Magellan's Cross, Fort San Pedro, and the Basilica Minor Del Santo Nino (the oldest Catholic church in the Islands), the latter built by Legazp in 1565. The Basilica houses the Santo Nino Image, brought to Cebu in 1521 by Magellan.

Our bus had passed the Provincial Capital (burned by the Japs in '45) and gone down the Osmena Blvd. (formerly Jones Ave.) which was the landing strip for the L-4 artillery spotter planes. Fifty years ago there were only a couple of buildings on this road, while today it is jammed with stores and traffic.

On Saturday we rented a car with a driver, Marvin Karran. This was a smart move as he was an excellent driver and could speak with the natives wherever we went. While 85% of the Filipinos speak English and their native language, we did not meet many who spoke English and their native language, we did not meet many who spoke English in Northern Cebu.

The first stop was Talisay Beach where the AMERICAL landed on March 26, 1945. Edd remembered coming ashore from an LCI and running into the mines. Today the beach is dirty, the water muddy, caused by many squatters living on the beach. However, Marvin found an AMERICAL monument there, which was lacking some of the wording. This monument was a surprise and we will write to the Provincial Governor to see if it can be repaired. Apparently very few AMERICAL veterans have returned to Cebu since the war.

On to Toledo where Gil remembers church bells ringing on March 26, 1945, when we passed through on our move to North Cebu. In Asturias we looked

CONTINUES NEXT PAGE

RETURN TO CEBU (continues)

for an old airstrip near the Osmena farm, but gave up after an hour after seeing many fish farms and even a pig raising operation. As we headed north there were fewer cars, less people and the road was unpaved or in need of repair in some places. In Tabuelan we got gas and listened to native dialect.

Two miles east of Tabuelan, on the road to Sacsac and Sogod, we found the Springs beside the road. Here on March 26, 1945 E Co. 182 Infantry left the trucks that had brought them from Guadalupe and proceeded to take positions on the hills in view of the Springs. One platoon lost three men KIA by a Jap machine gunner. These proved to be E Company's last casualties of the campaign. The next day the Company was leading the 2nd Battalion advance to Sacsac where we met the 132 Infantry coming in from the east. Gil had been told twelve years ago, by a Peace Corps worker, that little had changed in this area and he was correct. More people, more vegetation, some electric wires and very few vehicles. We went up to Ilihan, where the major Japanese surrender took place on September 28, 1945. No monuments in sight but we did note a Japanese shrine there.

Stopping for lunch at an east coast resort in Sogod, we had to clear the sawed off shotguns of the security guards in order to enter. Tourism is big business in Cebu, with resort hotels in Mactan, in Northern and Southern Cebu, which are excellent places for scuba diving. The Japanese are the major tourists in the Philippines and there are many of them at the Cebu Plaza Hotel. Those there were not very friendly which brings up the fact that most Filipinos do not seem to hold any grudges for their actions during the war. Japanese monuments to their dead are plentiful in the Islands. There is even one on the hotel grounds.

Driving through Danao and Compostella we arrive at Liloan (pop. 42M). With the aid of a map from the National Archives we found the road that led to the 182 Infantry camp. The cemetery on this paved-road is now quite filled, yet the narrow gauge railroad has been torn up and the area is quite crowded and unrecognizable through 1945 eyes. This was a great day, and then we returned to our A/C hotel in Cebu city--bushed.

Sunday, after breakfast, we took a cab to Guadalupe. After 50 years Gil remembered the route; Go around the left side of the Provincial Capital, cross the bridge and take the second right. Now known as Vincente Rama Ave. It was nameless and all agriculture in 1945. Three hundred replacements for the second battalion, 182 Infantry came down here in the early afternoon of March 3, 1945, at proper intervals, heading for their companies in this no man's land. They had landed with the second echelon on LST 777. Gil was among the 46 replacements headed for E Company. Then at the end of the road was a racecourse which, abutted the northern end of Hill 20, known locally as BAKSAN Ridge. Today, our cab headed down a street jammed with people, housing, and small stores. When we reached the site of the racecourse, we found a huge church which had been built in 1963 within the oval of the track.

We attended Mass and learned from the pastor that the church held a thousand people, and that the parish had 35,000 parishioners. This was quite a surprise as, after coming off BAKSAN Ridge, which E Company took with the help of guerrillas, we

spent several days at the racecourse area. E Company suffered its greatest casualties in Cebu during this operation with 1 DOW, 6 KIA, and 11 WIA. The new replacements suffered heavily as the represented 6 KIA's and 5 WIA's of the total casualties.

After church we tried to take some pictures of the ridge but discovered it was 2 miles long and 1040 feet high at its southern end, near the city reservoir.

Later, we went to the docks and retraced Edd's route to the Lahug Airdrome. Edd remembers digging a foxhole on the strip, while under mortar fire. Gill remembers it as the site of his first airplane ride in a C-47, to Leyte. Rumor has it that Lahug will become a Mall. Yes, they have them here.

On Monday our driver, Marvin, took us up into the hills behind the city to a picnic area called "The Tops", located in the Bagag Ridge area. Normally there are terrific views of Cebu and the neighboring islands from this site, however they were reduced by smog that prevailed that day. We came up on a fine road the will eventually go through to the other side of the island. There are expensive houses located up here and even a golf course under construction. It is a good thing that the Japs took off when they did, since there is nothing but more hills behind this site. In effect, we were looking down on most of the hills were the fighting took place in '45.

Later we went back to town and visited the U.S. Consulate office. They suggested we speak to Colonel Manuel F. Segura, an ex-guerrilla. We arranged to have lunch with him the next day. We then visited a local McDonalds and saw a number of Americans in the vicinity. We took a jeepney to the Provincial Capitol to visit the governor, but found he was away, and wound up having an interesting conversation with his aides on wartime history.

Tuesday we had lunch and a three hour conversation with Col. Segura and his friend, former Lt. Eufemio S. Flores. They were well acquainted with the AMERICAL units. Segura says that there have been a few AMERICAL men who have come back to Cebu. He is the author of several books on the guerrillas; "Tabunan" and "The Kogo Papers". He states the the AMERICAL DIVISION Post - American Legion, of which both are members, is still active.

Segura was the Adjutant to the ex-mining engineer James Cushing, who was the leader of the Cebu guerrillas. Flores was with the Signal Co. at the Taburan airstrip where American planes landed before March 26, 1945.

This was a very enjoyable session. Segura showed us wartime pictures and discussed the opening of Japanese caves which is still taking place. Apparently many Japanese came back here after the war and headed straight for the hills. The Filipinos felt that they were probably recovering treasures they had hidden there.

On Wednesday morning Mr. Flores returned to have breakfast with us and more conversation. As usual, as at every meal in the restaurant, the waiter slipped us an extra plate of mangoes for which Cebu is famous.

CONTINUES NEXT PAGE

RETURN TO CEBU (Conclusion)

Finally it was time to leave for the airport. On the way there we had the driver take us to the site where Magellan was killed in 1521, now just north of the airport.

Edd and Gil were both glad they went back to Cebu. They found the hard working Filipinos still very friendly to Americans. As representatives of all veterans who fought there we felt that we were treated with respect and gratitude for our contribution to their freedom.

Gil Dempsey & Edd Kueker

LTC. WANDA W. ENGEL 9 STATION HOSPITAL

I am sorry to have to report the death of one of our most faithful members, Wanda W. Engel. She was killed December 4, 1994 in an automobile accident near her home in Toledo, Ohio.

Wanda was a member of the original Task force 6814, assigned to the 9th Station Hospital.

Many members of the original Task Force and the AMERICAL Division, will remember her as the nurse who was in charge of the Dispensary on the docks in Noumea. Nurses will remember her as in charge of the house reserved for nurses, from all parts of the island, while visiting Noumea on pass.

She was one of 24 nurses reassigned to the 122nd Station Hospital on Espiritu Santo on 3 October 1943. After the war she remained ion the Regular Army Nurse Corps until she reached the age of retirement.

The Newsletter has never had a column, or much space, devoted to Army nurses. These fine women served us well when we were sick or wounded, cared for us and comforted us when we most needed it. This might be an opportunity to correct, or at least start to correct, our neglect of them.

Sincerely yours,
Arthur G. King
Formerly, Surgeon
Service Command

Ed Note: Below is a picture of the nurses at the 9 Station Hospital. It was sent in by Wanda and appeared with a story some time back.



ODES (WHITIE) SMITH
I COMPANY 182 INFANTRY

I am sorry to report that Odes Smith passed away on the 10th of January after surgery. He was home with his wife and children and grandchildren after a long stay in the hospital.

I visited Whitie several times before he passed away. He was told, after surgery for cancer, that he would die. He returned home to his family and even though he knew that death was near he was cheerful, and at times he showed his feelings for friends and the many visitors that visited him. He visited with friends and made trips around town to places he loved and at times was very jolly with the life he had left.

I notified all his buddies that were in I company on Bougainville and the Philippines and we sent a wreath with our names on it. I sent a uniform with all of Whitie's medals on it and I attended the funeral in uniform as he requested.

Whitie had requested a military funeral but the government does not furnish funerals except to retirees. Thanks to Commander Rueben Jones, and members of VFW Post 7214 he was given a burial with full military honors including a 21 gun salute and 'Taps'. I gave a brief eulogy and presented his wife, Hester, with the flag, at the grave site.

His funeral was attended by hundreds of friends and relatives.

Enclosed is a photo of Whitie and myself. He wanted me to wear my uniform and have my picture taken with him. This photo was taken about a month before his death.

Whitie had a smile for everyone until the day of his death. He will be remembered by many forever.

Ray E. Poynter
1/Sgt. Retired
I Company, 182

Ray, you are a true friend.



Ray E. Poynter Odes W. Smith

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

AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION

AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL REUNION - JUNE 22 - 25, 1995 - OAK BROOK, IL

- E V E N T S -

6/22/95 - THURSDAY

12/Noon - 7PM Registration. Pick up your PAID tickets.
12/Noon - 11PM Hospitality in the Marquis Room. Entertainment 8:30PM.

6/23/95 - FRIDAY

12/Noon - 11PM Hospitality in the Marquis Room. Entertainment 8:30PM.

TOURS:

Gambling on the river boat casino "EMPRESS", Joliet, Illinois. The short & long cruise leave the hotel at 8:30AM. Luncheon buffet from 10:30AM to 11:30AM. A \$10.00 rebate will be given to each attendee on arrival at the casino.

Chicago Sight-Seeing via Bus. Leave hotel at 9:00 AM and return at 3:00 PM. We will have a lunch stop-over at the "WATER TOWER" downtown Chicago from 12:45PM to 2:15PM. Return to hotel at 3:00PM. You will see all the Chicago highlights on this magnificent tour.

Cantigny War Museum, Mansion & Gardens. Leave hotel at 9:00AM and return at 3:00PM. Covers WWI, WWII, Korea, Viet Nam & the Persian Gulf. Considered one of the finest war museums in the nation; the realism of war is unbelievable.

Dinner & Play at Drury Lane Playhouse, Oak Brook. Dinner at 6:30PM, show starts at 8:30PM. Play, "Bye Bye Birdie".

Early GOLFAT Timber Trails. Golf fee payable at the club \$26.00; cart rental fee \$13.00.

6/24/95 - SATURDAY

9AM to 12/Noon general membership meeting.
12/Noon to 1:30PM Combined luncheon (ladies & gentlemen). Tables of 10.
2PM to 3PM Memorial Service. (Same room, same tables).
1PM to 4PM Hospitality in the Marquis Room.
6:30PM to 7:30PM Reception cocktails in lobby lounge and the Golden Oyster Room. Use your two (2) free drink tickets any time during the evening.
7:30PM to 9:30PM Dinner. No head table. Overflow guests, if any, will be in the Golden Oyster Room with a large T.V. screen for speeches, etc.
9:30PM to 12:30AM Music, dancing and socializing.
9:30PM to 12/Midnight hospitality in the Golden Oyster Room.

6/25/95 - SUNDAY

7AM to 11AM Farewell breakfast in the Golden Oyster Room.
Church services (check at the hotel desk),

NATIONAL REUNION - JUNE 22-25, 1995 - OAK BROOK, IL

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Two (2) free drinks are included with your banquet ticket. Our Hospitality Room will be manned by Reunion Committee members. Drink prices will be unusually low. ENJOY! Admission to the Hospitality Room is by an OFFICIAL 1995 AMERICAL REUNION I.D. TAG, which you receive by paying the Reunion Registration Fee of \$10.00. The ladies may want to visit one of the largest world famous shopping centers directly across the street from our hotel. There are over 12 restaurants in that area.

While in the Chicago-Suburban area check with the hotel desk for many other activities like sports events, plays, movies, museums, etc.

For further information contact reunion chairman:

JOE MICEK, [REDACTED], NORRIDGE, IL 60656
TEL. NO. [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

PLACES TO SEE/
THINGS TO DO

Oak Brook Center offers shopping, movies, and dining. Drury Lane Theater, Brookfield Zoo, Morton Arboretum; plus sports, museums, shopping, and scenery of downtown are only 25 minutes away.

347 GUEST
ROOMS AND
SUITES

All rooms feature individual climate control, alarm clock, television with in-room pay movies and free HBO, ESPN, CNN, and Disney cable channels. Two Concierge Level floors with full-service lounge. Nonsmoking and accessible rooms available. Suites and Executive King rooms available.

RESERVATION REQUEST
CHICAGO
Marriott.
OAK BROOK

[REDACTED]
Oak Brook, Illinois 60521
[REDACTED]

Name (print) _____ Club Marquis # _____

Address _____ Phone # () _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

For arrival on _____ (day) _____ (date) _____ Depart on _____ (day) _____ (date)

Estimated time of arrival _____ am or pm*

Please reserve _____ No. of Rooms for _____ People

No Smoking Rooms yes no (No Smoking Rooms based on availability)

Name(s) or person(s) sharing accommodations _____

Check or money order enclosed Diners Card Discover Card

American Express Visa Carte Blanche

Master Card (Please include interbank # directly below card #) Amount \$ _____

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____ Phone # () _____

I authorize the Oak Brook Marriott to charge my account for one night's deposit and all applicable taxes.

*Rooms may not be available for check-in until after 4:00 p.m. Check out time is 12 Noon.

RESERVATIONS REQUESTED BEYOND THE CUT OFF DATE ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. ROOMS MAY STILL BE AVAILABLE AFTER THE CUT OFF DATE BUT NOT NECESSARILY AT THE SAME RATE. PLEASE APPLY 7% SALES TAX TO THE ABOVE RATES. TAXES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

AMERICAL DIVISION NATIONAL
REUNION

JUNE 22, 1995 - JUNE 25, 1995

ROOM RATES

SINGLE OCCUPANCY....\$56.00

DOUBLE OCCUPANCY....\$56.00

TRIPLE OCCUPANCY....\$56.00

QUAD OCCUPANCY.....\$56.00

CUT OFF DATE: JUNE 1, 1995

COMPANY B 182 INFANTRY

In the November-December 1994 issue, the article on Company E, 164 Infantry-March 1944-by former C.O. Walker was interesting and I agree that he is entitled to speak his piece. However, I disagree with some of his comments. I fought on Hill 260 with Company B, 182 Infantry and I was not shocked by anything the article claims to be the truth and not the cover-up. The fact that the Commander in charge did not follow his suggestions does not indicate incompetence, greed, or glory, because they probably had information that he did not have and also orders that he did not know of. I am not saying that there were not mistakes made but I do not believe there was a cover-up.

The article seems to be critical of two units that I believe did an excellent job--the 182nd Infantry and the 246th Artillery. Mr. Walker questions the value of the outpost on Hill 260 that was manned by the 246 F.A. because he could see nothing but tree tops and jungle. However, an experienced Forward Observer might see things that he did not observe. The Division artillery must have thought the observation posts important because there was also one on Hill 270. This I believe was manned by the 221 F.A. The Japs thought the Hill 260 O.P. was important because that was their first target and they fought fanatically to hang onto it.

The article says that E Co. patrol went alongside Hill 500 and down the Torokina to the 182 patrol sector. Hill 500 is not on the Torokina but on the Sava River which is about 6,000 yards in front of the 182 and the 132 sector. So, the hill must have been 600 or 250 located on the Torokina, north of Hill 260.

The fact that the 245 F.A. could not fire into the 246 F.A. and 182 Infantry area, and that he was ordered out of the 182 area is not a sign of bureaucracy. Having fire zones and patrol areas was necessary for the safety and protection of the patrols. Allowing a Company C.O. to decide where they would patrol or which artillery unit they would call, could be a dangerous situation. I do not believe stopping one patrol would have prevented the fighting on Hill 260 because Hill 260 was a part of a strong offensive attack by a large enemy force.

The patrol from E Co. 164 Infantry was not the only patrol out that day as all units had security patrols out. On page 148 of 'Under the Southern Cross', a long range 21st Recon Troop patrol, operating around Hill 500 and the Sava River on that same day, confirmed reports of a hotbed of enemy activity. Patrols of the 37th Division reported similar activity in their area.

A possible explanation for the helmets worn by the 182 patrols he met in the 182 sector north of Hill 260, could be that they were a security patrol from the garrison on Hill 260 because they wore helmets on the outpost. (They were subject to mortar and artillery fire). Because the north knob was not occupied and the main defense line on Hill 260 faced to the north and west and not toward the steep slope facing the Torokina, their mission was probably to patrol north and west around the north knob. I think it is unfair to criticize the 182 patrol for not going down river without knowing what their orders were. Fatigue hats or caps were the normal head gear for all patrols of the 182 Infantry.

Col. Dunn was mentioned as C.O. of the 182 at the time of the patrol. Col. Dunn did not become C.O. of the 182 until March 22, 1944. (Col. Long was

the C.O.) The reference to Gen. McCulloch running the 182 is not exactly accurate because as Assistant Division Commander he was sent to the 182 Command Post to establish a forward Division Command Post.

As for crossing the Torokina and cutting off the Jap supply lines--I do not think that was possible, if they had wanted to, because the Americal did not have the manpower to do so. With the known strength of the Japs in the area you would not dare send anything other than a large force, which was not available without committing all reserves. To cut the supply lines, artillery fire was used along with strong air strikes by Navy and Marine units based on Bougainville, Munda and Guadalcanal. Also, destroyers bombarded some areas. Since the mission of XIV Corps, of which the Americal was a part, was to defend the perimeter around the airfield at all costs. I believe the decision to use artillery, air strikes, and Naval bombardment was made on a higher level than Gen. McCulloch or Gen. Hodge.

For 48 years I had unanswered questions about Hill 260. Why did they decide to hold at all costs and why six Companies of the 182 and 132 were not sent out one or two Companies at a time? In 1992 I read 'Under the Southern Cross' and it answered the question for me. Captured enemy documents translated before the all out attack on the perimeter, indicated the tactical importance of Hill 260 as a stepping stone to Japanese success. After Gen. Hodge was ordered to hold the hill I believe, with the limited manpower available, it was handled the only way he could. I believe the units from the 182 and 132 can be proud of the fact that they accomplished their mission to stop the Jap offensive in the 182 sector although all units paid a high price.

I do not claim to be a military expert but I am stating my views based on operations that I took part in and books that I have read such as "Under the Southern Cross", "The Pacific War 1941-1945" by John Costello.

I was surprised to learn that the military crisis on Bougainville in March 1944 disrupted the entire Pacific campaign for two weeks and threatened to disrupt directives issued on March 2, 1944 for the next round of operations in the Pacific by the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington--the Southwest Pacific Hollandia landing scheduled for April 15, and the Central Pacific invasion of the Marianas set for June 15 to be followed by the assault on Palau on September 15, 1944.

I think that explains some of the pressure put on the 37th Division and the Americal to hold at all cost and protect the four airfields on Bougainville.

Sincerely,
Tillman C. Cole
[REDACTED]

Tel: [REDACTED]

Tyler, TX 75701

Ed Note: Very well written Tillman. One thing I would like to add--In the jungle across the Torokina one patrol could not always contact another patrol in the same area. We used to use the Artillery O.P.'s as a relay to contact other patrols in our area. When on a combat patrol we would always have a F.O. from the artillery with us. If we needed artillery support we would pop a colored smoke grenade, one on each flank. The artillery O.P.'s could determine our exact position by triangulation and give us accurate artillery support when needed.

COMPANY A 131 COMBAT ENGINEERS

Hey! Listen up. I'll tell you about the start up and operation of the railroad at Noumea, New Caledonia.

Company A, 131 Combat Engineers Regiment left San Francisco October 20, 1942 aboard USS Rochambeau and arrived in Noumea Harbor on November 7, 1942.

On or about November 26, 1942, one officer and 60 enlisted men of Company A relieved personnel of the 223 Field Artillery of the duties of operating the Noumea Paita Railroad, taking full charge of all operations on November 29, 1942. On this date, one twenty-seven ton steam locomotive, one twelve ton steam switch locomotive, were the only engines in operation. Twenty one cars were in use for transporting freight, using eight cars on a round trip from Noumea to Paita each day.

Work was started immediately in cleaning up the railroad yard, which having been long neglected was littered with junk and cast off materials and with wrecked cars on every siding. The completion of the railroad yard clean up was accomplished on or about June 15, 1943 with everything in a clean and orderly fashion. All junk had been removed, the usable American and French steel had been stacked and the abandoned Javanese quarter had been destroyed.

During the first two months of operation, sixteen wrecked freight cars were converted to fourteen usable cars, twenty-three dismantled ore cars were assembled with a flat bed replacing the ore bed and three locomotives were repaired and put into operation transporting freight. By the end of the first week in January 1943, one twenty-seven ton, one sixteen ton, two twelve ton, one eight ton steam locomotives and two six ton diesel engines were available for pulling power. The two diesel engines were shipped from Australia and were received during the first week in January.

On January 21, 1943, an accident occurred in which resulted in the only serious injury that any of the personnel suffered during the seven months of operation. Private Roy L. French, 14100677, working as brakeman, was thrown from and under a six ton diesel, amputating a leg. The accident was the result of the engine on, which he was riding, colliding with a cow.

From December 27, 1942 to approximately January 15, 1943 the track maintenance crew laid over one thousand feet of track as a siding the Grand Docks.

Many changes in sidings were needed as the sidings that were available were not at the desired locations. During the seven months, two new sidings were laid by taking up other sidings and switches from the main line and installing them at the desired locations along the road. All the old sidings were repaired and old ties were replaced with new.

During April, May and June, round trip runs from Noumea to Paita averaged thirty cars daily. In addition to these runs many short hauls were made daily from the Grand Docks to the railroad yard and warehouse No. 24 siding.

During May and June, two cars that had been used as living quarters for the enlisted men were converted into passenger cars to seat one hundred casualties in padded chairs and were to be used in transporting casualties from the Grand Docks to

the new Station Hospital at Dumbea. Five cars were converted to carry a total of sixty litter patients to the hospital.

Construction work completed during the seven months consisted of the following: all sidings were repaired and extended with new rail and ties, a new machine shop building was constructed with the machinery of the machine shop and that of an old French machine shop, repaired and set up in operation.

I was a member of A Company, 131 Combat Engineers from its inception in March of 1942 until I left them on New Georgia Island on October 20, 1943.

Hope this will jog some old memories.

Raymond A. McCranie

"PRISONERS OF THE JAPANESE POWS OF WORLD WAR II IN THE PACIFIC"
by Garvin Daws

For the book review section of the Americal Newsletter, I wish to suggest the above volume as a special interest to the veterans of the Pacific.

Mr. Daws, a prolific writer, spent ten years doing archival research and interviewing of survivors. He uses survivor's oral histories throughout the narrative and all accounts are totally documented.

Except for the Nazi treatment of the Jews, there is no parallel to the organized, systematic, genocidal cruelty inflicted on the white POWs whom the Japs considered racially inferior. About as many American POWs died in Japanese prison camps as died in the entire Vietnam War. In the slave labor and hell ships, the POWs suffered death by execution, beatings, starvation, disease, medical experiments and decapitation -a Japanese warrior sport.

Most of the POWs along with some Australians, British, Dutch Military and American construction workers were captured in the first months of the war when Guam, Wake Island, the Philippines and other islands were taken by the Japanese.

Because of political priorities, this story has never been officially documented and disclosed. Japan has refused to acknowledge responsibility for POW atrocities. The prison camp commanders were issued orders to insure liquidation of all American and British prisoners to occur as soon as American troops landed on Japan. Thus the bomb drop saved the lives of tens of thousands of POWs, an interesting insight to the present Smithsonian-Enola dispute.

Jack Haggerty
221 F.A. Ser. Btry

F COMPANY 182 INFANTRY

Just a quick note to say 'HI' to the old gang and also the many new members of the Americal Division Veterans Association -- old gang is right -- I'll hit the 80 mark this year! Still play golf four or five times a week here in Louisville, Kentucky. Shoot in the 70's - any colder and I don't play.

Al Hartwell

640 TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

The 640th Tank Destroyer Battalion, 40th Division, left Camp Stoneman, Pittsburg, CA in September of 1942 to Port of Embarkation and then to the Hawaiian Islands, on the SS Kota Agoeng, a converted Dutch freighter. Nine days on this pig pen to Kanai Island. After the battle of Midway they found out that the Jap fleet was heading for Kanai Island. All we had to defend the island at that time was a 3" towed guns and Half-tracks. Shortly we received M10 Tanks with 3" guns. I was the driver of one of these. We were then attached to the 33rd Division and were sent to Oahu Island for jungle, house to house, and amphibious training. During our training we made an amphibious landing in a big storm.

On January 20, 1944 we left Oahu, boarded transports and landed on Guadalcanal on February 5, 1944. On April 30th we were transported to New Britain Island and attached to the 40th Division, 6th Army. Left New Britain and landed on Mendoro Island on January 9, 1945. One of our LST's, after a rough trip, landed on Luzon.

The Japs were out to get us. Every morning and sundown they dive bombed us. We were sitting ducks! They floated out at night under boxes and dynamited three of our LST's. We fired our Tommy guns all night long--at anything floating in the water. We got six of them.

After 2 days we were able to land our LST's on the beach. The night before we took Clark Field they opened up on us with 5-inch guns. I was on a machine gun nest and praying. The last shell went off right above me and my buddy and knocked the breath out of both of us. Six of our men were wounded.

The Japs placed damaged planes on top of oil drums to make them look like good ones. When our planes would come in to strafe them the Japs would open up with their ack-ack guns.

In the Zomboli mountains, behind Clark Field, our Commander told us that when we went over the hill to open up with everything we had. We blasted everything and when the smoke cleared my Tank Commander started hollering, "Look over there". Man, there were 5-inch gun barrels sticking out of the holes. And I was shaking like Hell!!

Our Lieutenant was in an armed car firing at everything and hit an ammo dump. We had to retreat back off of the hill. We had to go back up again and I thought -- this is it. I was scared s---less! But nothing happened. The Imperial Marines had taken off. The tanks scared them to death, like me! After this battle we took off for Manila. One hell of a trip through rice paddies and mud up to our --. When we got to Manila I had about 6 rubber blocks left on each track. After re-equipping our tanks we took off for Mindanom Island arriving on April 4, 1945.

This is when we really got into some battles--firing on pillboxes, caves and machine gun nests. Believe this or not -- one night my Lieutenant and assistant driver made a bonsai attack on a hill where the Jap Infantry was dug in. We got to the bottom of the hill and the Lieutenant told us to fire as fast as we could at the top of the hill. I was to be the loader--I threw the shell in and BANG! The breach came back and the spring or something hit my hand--I grabbed my fingers to see if they were still there! I cussed the lieutenant out -- he said he hadn't pressed the

button yet. BANG! It happened again and again!! The Lieutenant said to hell with this---let's get out of here! But then all hell broke loose--We took in, through our escape hatch about six wounded infantrymen and another three were on the back of the tank.

WE started down the hill and I told the lieutenant that there was a Jap motor pool down there and also a gas tanker. I told him I had to turn on the lights and the sirens. He said okay---good thing because we were headed dead center for the tank truck. We saved some lives I believe. We sure as hell surprised those Japs! They took the hill--we lost men but they lost a lot more! They had bonsai us one time so we had to get even.

When these battles were over we went back to our Headquarters Battalion and the men with the highest points were sent home. I was one of them with 105 points. We went to Leyte to catch a Merchant Marine PA ship for home. Took 26 days. I got a job as an assistant butcher for the Merchant Marine. I gained 9 pounds. We were between Midway and Wake Island when the first Atomic bomb was dropped on Japan.

We landed at San Pedro, CA and took an all night train ride to Camp Beal for discharge on August 12, 1945.

I'm writing this in hopes that the Tank Destroyers of the Philippines and Europe get some recognition fro a change. I also want to say we were attached to and went into battle with a great bunch of Infantrymen.

Sincerely,
Otto Lindskog
B Co. 640 T.D. Bn.

MARCH 1, 1945 MINDORO ISLAND



Left to Right: Bobby Leffel - Hy Hoffman
Marty Martinez - Otto Lindskog - Clarence Johnson

BECAUSE OF THE INCREASE IN THE COST OF PRINTING AND POSTAGE THE AMERICAL NEWSLETTER IS NOW BEING PUT OUT EVERY FOUR MONTHS---MARCH---JUNE---SEPTEMBER---DECEMBER.

THE ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS

MAY 1, 1995

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER
WITH ALL CORRESPONDENCE

THE MAGNIFICENT BASTARDS

The Joint Army-Marine Defense Of Dong Ha 1968

To quote:

As part of the post-Tet American counteroffensive, the 3rd Marine Division was preparing to attack NVA positions staging along the DMZ when on April 29, the 320th NVA division was spotted less than four miles from the Marines' Dong Ha Combat Base. Brutal fighting soon developed in nearby Dai Do as the 2nd Battalion 4th Marines, known as the "Magnificent Bastards," struggled to eject NVA forces from this strategic hamlet located just two mile from the division's headquarters and main supply base.

Aided by the "Gimlets" of the U.S. Army Americal Division's 3rd Battalion, 21 Infantry, who became embroiled in a bitter battle at neighboring Nhi Ha, the "Magnificent Bastards" held their ground in a see-saw contest with a larger NVA force until they were relieved by the 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, on May 3.

Check for it at your local bookstore or write

MCA Bookservise

Quantico, VA 22134

"Magnificent Bastards" \$24.95 + \$2.00 SandH

AT THE WALL



PNC RONALD WARD
Placing the wreath on the "WALL".
November 11, 1994

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

AMERICAN FLAG HALL OF FAME

196er, Ken Smith of Boston was recently inducted into the "American Flag Hall Of Fame". Ken was cited for: Setting the standard for organizations all over America to follow in establishing programs to help the homeless, and was noted for such by being awarded the President's "1000 Points of Light" award. His New England Shelter in Boston for homeless veterans of all wars is indeed very special. Thousands of vets have passed through that facility over the last few years, a place where they gained self respect, re-entered society, secured a job, and once again became a productive, contributing citizen of America. Ken did it with tenacity, perseverance, much of his own monies, and continuous hard work.

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

We are proud of you both.

You may assist Ken in his efforts by sending donations to:

The New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans
[REDACTED]
Boston, MA 02108

Ed Note: Ken Smith is a member of the ADVA and also one of his assistants, Richard Del Rossi.

31 INFANTRY 196 LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE

I read with interest the historical facts (Americal Newsletter) on the Americal Division in Viet Nam. Where would one be able to purchase the book "Under the Southern Cross" by Major General A.E. Milloy, Division Commander of the Americal Division

Sincerely,
Daniel LaPierre

[REDACTED]
Van Buren, ME 04785

Ed Note: "Under the Southern Cross" was written by Capt. Cronin and it covered the World Era. I do not know of a book written by Gen. Milloy.

DOES ANYONE KNOW OF THIS BOOK?

COMPANY D - 1st BATTALION - 46th INFANTRY - 198 LIB

DID YOU KNOW THIS MAN?

PFC TIMOTHY G. ARENS was KIA 17 miles southwest of Tam Ky City, in Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam, on October 1, 1968. Also seekin info that would help me locate other family members of the men that died with Timothy in the helicopter crash. Also interested in reunions of the 198 LIB. Send any info to:

Mr. Rick School

[REDACTED]
Kimberly, WI 54136-1246

Telephone [REDACTED]

ARE YOU INTERESTED

Enclosed please find our color brochure of lithographic prints we are marketing nationally. The subject matter of these four prints are a series of Vietnam Recollections. of J.W. 'Doc' Johnson and the artistry of Jacques Lamy.

Mr. Johnson was a Combat Medic with Alpha Company 1st of the 501st Infantry, 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam. Mr. Lamy is a renowned French military illustrator and recipient of the French National Art Award. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Lamy collaborated on this series of Vietnam War Art. These prints are of the first in several series to be done over the next two years. We are presently donation a portion of the sale of each print to the POW/MIA Fund.

If you are interested in purchasing any of these prints the cost is \$60.00 plus \$3.95 for shipping. If you desire more information write to:

Kenneth B. Kinkaid
Vietnam Recollections
[REDACTED]
Dallas, TX 75205-8300

Tel: [REDACTED] Fax [REDACTED]

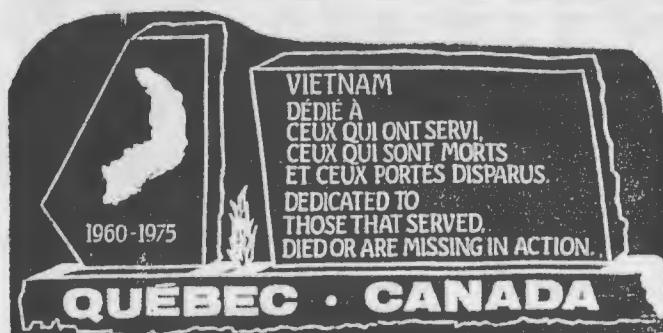
Ed Note: Pictures in brochure would not reproduce satisfactorily. Write or call the above address for a free colored brochure.

CANADIAN VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

Our Monument located in the town of Cote-St-Catherine had to be moved, due to the expansion of City Hall. We basically were evicted. We were given a few months to move it, or have it stored, or as we like to define it, thrown into a salt warehouse, it kind of upset us.

A new location was found in Melocheville. After much work, volunteer labor and donation of material and equipment, the new site was finally readied and the dedication took place on October 15, 1994.

Jacques Gendron
President
MACV 1964-65



PLEASE NOTE: THIS MEMORIAL IS DEDICATED TO ALL CANADIAN VIETNAM VETERANS---NOT JUST QUEBEC VETERANS!!!

ALL YOU REDLEGS TAKE NOTE

I am conducting research for a book that I am writing to pay tribute to those that served as US Army Field Artillerymen in Vietnam. More specifically, those that served and fought in the 5 Field Artillery Groups, 65 Field Artillery Battalions, and 17 separate Field Artillery Batteries. No book on this subject would be complete without chapters devoted to the accomplishments and sacrifices made by the artillery units that served with the AMERICAL Division in Vietnam.

Much has been written about our brothers in the Infantry, and deservedly so. But it is important for us to remember that Field Artillerymen fought, were wounded, or gave their lives as well. As time marches on, it's easy to forget all those who shed their blood in Vietnam for our great country. It is impossible for me as one man to write about all of the Army branches, so as a proud member of the Field Artillery Branch for twenty years, I'll just concentrate my energy into preserving part of its history. My first priority will be to use stories written and subjected directly from Field Artillerymen that were there when significant events occurred. I feel it is essential that a small piece of history created by Field Artillerymen should be documented and preserved for future generations to read and learn from.

My intention is to devote a chapter to each unit, with each chapter documenting as many significant historical details as possible, along with at least one story describing acts of heroism or bravery under fire by the unit, or individual members of the unit. I am trying to contact as many Vietnam Veterans, that served in these units, as possible, and ask for their personal stories, copies of After Action Reports, unit histories, copies of awards citation, unit crests, special patches, action photos, unit pictures, names of unit commanders and dates they commanded, special or unusual techniques or applications used, special missions (Riverine Force Artillery, Artillery Raids, etc.). Anyone contribution material that is used in the final draft of the book will be given full credit for their submissions.

My own experience in Vietnam began with deployment from Fort Bragg, NC with the 7th Bn. 15th Artillery in June of 1967 to Pho Cat. Our Battalion was commanded by Ltc. Robert Hankins, (later Brig. Gen.) and I served as the Chief of Battalion Fire Direction. In February 1968, I was promoted to E-7 and transferred to the 1st Battalion 30th Artillery of the 1st Cavalry Division as the Chief of Battalion Fire Direction until I rotated back to Fort Riley, Kansas in June of 1968. Contact:

Dan Gillotti (M/Sgt Retired)

Tel. [REDACTED] Home [REDACTED] Work [REDACTED]

If any member of the ADVA has a story for this man please cooperate with him. BUT PLEASE---send a copy of your material to THE AMERICAL NEWSLETTER because the membership would be interested too. SEND TO:

Roland T. Castranova
Vietnam News Editor

[REDACTED]
Peabody, MA 01960

196 LIB 5th BATTALION 46 INFANTRY 198 LIB

I have received your letter soliciting my membership into the Americal Division Veterans Association.

First, allow me to say that I am very proud to have served in the Americal Division for 22 months in Viet Nam during 1968 -1969. During that time I enjoyed some great professional experiences that I shall always remember.

During my time with the Americal Division I had the very distinct privilege of serving for six months as the Command Sergeant Major of the 196 Light Infantry Brigade under the leadership of then Colonel Frederick J. Kroesen, Brigade Commander. In addition I also enjoyed the experience of serving on the Commanding General's Staff with the man who became Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Colin Powell, then a Major and also having met General (then Ltc) Schwartzkoff. More importantly, let me not fail to mention the acquaintance of many courageous young soldiers and Non Commissioned Officers who were the life and blood of this great Division.

To sum up my assignments while serving with the Americal Division, they were:

CSM 5th Bn 46 Inf - March to May 1968. I went overseas with the advance party as the round-out battalion of the 198 LIB LZ GATOR.

CSN 196 LIB - June to December 1968 LZ Baldy

CSM Americal Division - January to December 1969

NOTE: I served with the 37th Infantry Division during World War II joining them on Bougainville as the rear detachment was departing for Luzon. Another great experience.

Sincerely,
James P. Meade
USA Ret

REUNIONS REUNIONS REUNIONS REUNIONS

Firebase Indy VI
Veterans Reunion

June 9, 10, & 11, 1995
Marion County Fairgrounds
Indianapolis, Indiana

For info write:
Vietnam Veterans of America
[REDACTED]

Fort Benjamin Harrison, IN 46216

Tel: [REDACTED]

WEST VIRGINIA'S ANNUAL VETERANS REUNION

June 2, 3, 4, 1995

Hurricane, West Virginia

CONTACTS:

Bill Scott [REDACTED]
Don Kinward [REDACTED]

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Rolling Thunder:

I hope everyone is in good health and ready to ride to ROLLING THUNDER III May 28, 1995 in Washington, DC. We have made many runs for all POW-MIA's in the past years. All of you have given a lot of time to support American POW's that the United States government has chosen to let die in the hands of their captives. We ride for the freedom of all POW's and MIA's from all wars and hope this will never happen again. We pay our respects to those who gave all they could, from all wars.

Information from the files of 591 POW's that returned in 1973 in 'Operation Homecoming' puts much light on this issue. In their debriefing there were 896 pages of statements on 622 other American POW's being held by communists forces in Hanoi. Those Americans POW's held in the communist prison system were never returned or asked for. Many have died in the past years and some may still live. We are their only hope and we must continue to fight for their freedom.

We must always keep in mind that our military is in many small countries. Sent to fight for freedom of others in countries where we don't belong. Being ordered to go and fight when those sending our troops, never served. We must keep this issue in the eyes of the world to protect our brothers and sisters so they to are not captured and left behind.

Who are the traitors of this issue? The United States government and every politician that has been involved in POW-MIA issue cover-up. Senator Kenny and Senator McCain are Vietnam veterans. Both of them covered up and refused to use information at the select senate committee on POW-MIA affairs. They are the ones responsible for the trade embargo being lifted. They sure are no brother of mine!

Last year we had over 150,000 brothers and sisters in Washington, DC at Rolling Thunder VII. Let us ride together at Rolling Thunder VIII and tell the world that we will never let our brothers be forgotten. Keep the faith and never give up.

A special thanks to all veterans, bikers, magazines, organizations and those from other countries that helped make that run a success. See everyone at Rolling Thunder VIII in Washington, DC. Ride and Safe free. We will never forget you "POW-MIA"

Your brother,

Artie Muller
SGT. ARTIE MULLER
US ARMY VIETNAM 66-67
4TH INF. DIV. CO. B 1/22 INF.

COMMEMORATIVE PATCH OR PIN

Commemorative patches and pins commemorating ROLLING THUNDER III are available for \$5.50 each. All proceeds will be used for the POW-MIA issue and to help disabled veterans. Send check or money order to:

Rolling Thunder
& Artie Muller

Neshanic Station, NJ 08853

HILL 411 ASSOCIATION 3 BATTALION 1 INFANTRY 11 LIB

The Hill 411 Association is an organization of veterans who served with the U. S. Army's Americal Division on Firebase 4-11 located in Quang Ngai Valley in the Republic of South Vietnam; primarily men of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment of the 11th Light Infantry Brigade. Their dates of service were from July 1969, when the fire support base was constructed to 1972 when it was demolished. FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Dankert

Lansing, MI 48911-5054

BLACKHAWK ASSOCIATION 7TH SQUADRON 1ST CAVALRY REGIMENT

The 7th Squadron 1st Cavalry "Blackhawks" Vinh Long RVN 68-72 and all attached units (Troop D 3rd Squadron 5th Cavalry, Troop C 3rd Squadron 17th Cavalry, Troop C 16th Cavalry and 370th, 371st and 372nd Transportation Detachment). Reunion 1995 to be held at:

Drawbridge Estate
Northern Kentucky
April 10 - 13, 1995

Contact:

Michael J. O'Reilly
[REDACTED]
Cold Spring, NY 10516-2702

174 AHC

Fort Walton Beach, Florida
October 6, 1995

CONTACT

Eddie O'Neil
[REDACTED]

CAN YOU HELP?

E COMPANY 1 BATTALION 20 INFANTRY 11 LIB

I am a veteran of Vietnam and I served in the above unit when it was engaged at Mai Lei.

I am trying to obtain proof that I was present during this battle. I need confirmation that E Company (Recon) played the role of a blocking force for C Company which was the main assault force.

Charlie Company Commander was Lt. Kelley and my Commander was Lt. Adams of Recon.

I served three years in the Army and was in Vietnam from December 4, 1967 until October 28, 1968. I was honorably discharged from the Army and was awarded two Bronze Stars during my tour.

Thank you for your time in this matter of great concern. Write to:

Albert T. Davis
[REDACTED]
Chicago, IL 60653

VETERANS DAY WASHINGTON, DC

Keeping with tradition, quite a few Americal troops made their presence known in the nation's Capitol for Veteran's Day, November 11, 1994. The CP was the Hotel Washington, the scene of many previous happy hours enjoyed by our men. I saw the usual faces and plus some new ones.

The hotel hospitality room was fully stocked with liquid refreshments making an excellent place to meet after the ceremonies at the Vietnam Memorial.

Paul Woerner, a former platoon leader with the 11 LIB came all the way from Alaska. Terry Babler 1/1 Cav showed up with a gang from Wisconsin and the "Gimlets" of A 3/21 were there led by their old platoon leader, Terry Smith. It was a good crowd and many a toast was made to the men who made the supreme sacrifice.

A wreath to commemorate those men was laid at the Wall by Col. Vern Pike, 23 MP's and Ron Ellis of the 196 LIB.

We'll do it again next year and I hope to see you all there.

Ron Ward

AT THE VIETNAM MEMORIAL



Ron Ward - Ron Ellis



Ron Ward - Frank Schulgen

6 SUPPORT BATTALION 11 LIB

I used to belong to the ADVA way back in the seventies but after suffering flash-backs of Vietnam I let my membership run out. However, I rejoined again in January of 1994.

Since then I have really enjoyed being part of the Association again and I do enjoy the Newsletter.

I was in Duc Pho, which was LZ Bronco, Chu Lai-LZ Baldy, and the Minh Long River Valley. A lot of years have passed and I've blocked out a lot. Would appreciate any help members may be able to give in filling me in on the blank spots.

Am I entitled to the Combat Infantryman Badge?

Bob Cragle
Duc Pho 68-69

Ed Note: Members--how about some stories for Bob? Your MOS number is what determines your right to the CBI. I will send you a copy of Jan-Feb 1994 Newsletter as soon as I can scare on up.

ARE YOU HISPANIC?

I'm writing a book about the role of Hispanics in the Vietnam War and hope that you can help me. I would like to include in my book letters from vets of any background who may have lost a Hispanic buddy or buddies in the war. The letters will be included in the introduction section of the book.

I am also looking for Hispanics who would like to have their Vietnam narratives included in my book. I'm particularly interested in interviewing vets of Cuban, Panamanian, and Columbian backgrounds. My publisher will contract individually with all contributors and pay them a small fee for use of their stories. Please contact:

Gil Dominguez
[REDACTED]
San Antonio, TX 78201

Ed Note: The AMERICAL NEWSLETTER is also interested in those stories!

VIETNAM WAR STORIES THE COMPANY OF WRITERS

CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

Submissions are now being accepted for a short story anthology about the Vietnam War to be published electronically over the Internet.

The editors seek the gamut of comedy, pathos, absurdity, tragedy, satire, angst, and any other emotional overtones. Stories can be any length or style, from Saigon warriors, REMF's, Donut Dollies, entertainers, pilots, grunts, and other participants, military or civilian. Only unpublished works will be considered.

The anthology will be copyrighted by the editors, but the others own all future rights to their stories. There is no entry fee and payment will be in copies. Send to above address.

HOW ABOUT SENDING A CARD TO AN AILING COMRADE

COMRADES

I think it was Grant in the Civil War (or for any of you south of the Mason Dixon line (The War Between the States) that said "It's a good thing war is so terrible because if it was not we would get to love it too much" Terrible, mind numbing, butchery, but we all were young and so alive. Future didn't count. Armed to the teeth, with friends that would risk their life for you and vice-versa. Adventure levels of adrenalin that are illegal now. The feeling of power. Then Boom-fear, - courage, - cowardice, - compassion. The feelings were all so new and pure and almost overwhelming. Here in Albuquerque there is a new political problem with gangs. When it comes to gangs they should have seen 1st plt H trp 17 Cav, or 1/6 Inf. or 1/46 or 1/14 Arty, we were the brotherhood and as BAD as can be. I can somehow understand the need to belong, and exercise power that the young people are inflicting on our society today. We did many of the same things and now, in our older age, we try to understand and some of us are still trying to make peace with ourselves. So it goes.

"Doc Merk"

Michael Moehrke
23rd MED 198TH 68-69

(PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD)

71 - 14 AVIATION BATTALION
DIET

I remember very well why the NVA--- had a particular smell, or I remember very clearly what I was told. LRRP's told us it was their diet. They said that because of long distances they had to travel, they would make a type of stew using mostly insects that was high in protein. They would add this stew over a little rice and go like he!! It would last without spoiling for some time. But it smelled and we smell like what we eat. These LRRPs used to have little bottles of scent that they would put on themselves before they would go on a mission. I remember one of the slick gunners always complaining that they put on the scent early just to drive him bonkers. I think I've heard of hunters using something to disguise their scent. EK

Ed Klosterman 70-71

(PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD)

QUAD 50

I've been reading the postings of many members relating their experiences in the Nam. Whew! How different our conditions were. As a crew chief on Quad 50's I was on several different FSB's ranging from Brigade size to OP size, and spent a period of my tour at the Battery rear area near Div Arty HQ. With one exception, I lived in sandbagged bunkers and usually had electricity. I never had to venture into the bush.

When stationed in Duc Pho and at LZ Debbie, where the Quads were mounted on the back of five ton trucks, I ran with a minesweep convoy on a section of QL 1 down to LZ English (I think that was the name) near the 173rd Avn. Bn. AO. Only thing was we never had any Engineers with us to actually sweep for mines. Guess it was the seek and find technique. The convoy was usually commanded by a

bulletproof vest wearing E7 who turned the convoy around in the same place everyday. I objected to this practice but it was continued. You know what happened to those who established a routine outside American bases. One morning while our sister crew was with the convoy one of the vehicles hit a mine while turning around in that same place. Fortunately it was either a small mine or the mine failed to detonate properly, as it was the monsoon season, and only superficial damage was sustained.

Rob Cook
G55 Arty Quad 50's 70-72

(PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD)

174 AHC
SHARKS

I flew with the Firebirds often in 67 and 68, especially the 5-minute gunship standby missions. We used to pull up at LZ Baldy (fly all the way up from Duc Pho and pull 24-hours of standby straight, then fly back to Duc Pho). I was also back in 71 flying Slicks with the 116 Hornets when you were there, although you were getting short when I got back the second time. I was going through my flight checkouts when LZ Maryanne got overrun. I was out there a few days after but missed the medevacs and evacuate ones at the time. Do you know of the Vietnam Helicopter Crewmembers Association? They just had a joint reunion with us pilots in Philly over the 4th. I saw my crew chief from 71 for the first time in 23 years, and he managed to track down our doorgunner who got shot up flying with us out by Tra Bong. My copilot also got shot up and my crew chief got him off the controls before we crashed into the trees. If not for him, I wouldn't be here now. The gunner had his intestines in a bag for 6 months (we just found out this week) but recovered completely and is a successful businessman now. That is good news. If you don't know of them and are interested, I'll get you a point of contact. There were some Firebirds at this latest reunion. Take care, and thanks for the note.

Shark 4

James (Jim) McDaniel 67-68

(PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD)

1 CAVALRY ASSOCIATION

I am in charge of the 1st/1st Cavalry Association of the Americal Division. We are over two years old and have as membership of about 135 members nationwide with an additional mailing list of over 400 other names.

The 1st/1st Cavalry Association is running a Cavalry Reunion in conjunction with the Americal Division Veterans Association Convention that is to be held in Chicago, IL June 22-23-24=25, 1995. I anticipate that many members of the 1/1 will be in attendance.

Chicago is an excellent place for a Reunion. I was there for a Welcome Home parade in June of 1986. Over 250,000 vets met for a three hour parade. If any of your 1st/1st Cav veterans want more information on our organization write to:

Terry Babler

New Glarus, WI 53574

2 BATTALION 1 INFANTRY 196LIB

LEAFLETS

Speaking of leaflets directly addressed to someone, I received one from the VC addressed to me personally. One day we were out VIPing and went out to the pit where we blew what we bought. As we got to the edge of the crater, I spotted a stick in the center with a large note fastened to it. We froze, thinking we were probably in the middle of a mini mine field. Booby traps and such. My Kit Carson Scout, an ex-VC platoon leader quietly reviewed the situation and calmly proclaimed "No sweat LT". He then ran down the side of the crater and grabbed the stick with the note. This is usually a good way to get blown away. In any case, he was right and we were clear. The note expressed the VC's extreme displeasure with my activities and requested that I stop immediately. Its nice to be recognized by the opposition. I think I still have that note somewhere, but where?

Spencer

Spencer Baba 68-69

(PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD)

C COMPANY 3 BN. 21 INFANTRY 196 LIB
GRUNTS

Rick, I thought you might have been my replacement but got sent to the wrong unit. I left country 11/17 and hadn't seen LZ Baldy for three months. We were lucky enough to have been the watch dogs for the ARVN gang at Nui Lok Son, (not sure how it was spelled). We were airlifted out as necessary. Seemed to me we just hung out until someone else got into trouble and they sent us in to get them out. If you read the article I have seen on *P you notice we spent time with all units assigned to I Core. Whenever we had choppers on the way we knew someone was in trouble. I'm not saying we were the heros but it did seem to be our job to sit around and wait for someone else to find the enemy. I do remember something with the 1/46 where they ran into the bad guys on a hilltop and we had to get to the bottom of the hill to stop them from getting away some time in Sept.-Oct. 68.

William Gerber 67-68

(PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD)

123 AVIATION BATTALLION

MEDIC

I remember the day the medic station in Chu Lai got hit. We lost a friend, our company medic, Corporal Benjamin Nelson among, I think 5 killed. It actually made the papers back home where the article said "there were light" casualties. I guess "light" means you're on the other side of the world and didn't know anyone. Also, I remember an LZ close by Chu Lai that I think was called LZ Hawk Hill that was mainly used for refueling. John

John Boyer
123 AVN 70-71

(PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD)

B COMPANY 1 BN. 46 INFANTRY - 14 ARTY
SILVER STAR

The memory is coming back. In late November-early December, 1969 both Bravo and Delta companies of the 1/46 infantry were in the thick of things in Old Hau Duc. I was the FO for Bravo and Auggie Dailer was the FO for Delta. We had both been at the FO game for several months and kind of looked out for one another. I seem to recall that we were in search of an NVA hospital. We found a lot of NVA regulars, but no hospital. I remember being extracted off of what was to become LZ Mildred. A godforsaken bald hill at a di-di trail intersection smack in the middle of what was Old Hau Duc. (New Hau Duc was a resettlement ville maybe 10-15 clicks north of Old Hau Duc). Anyway, I don't remember why it was so important for us (B Co) to get out of there, but the REMFs in Chu Lai must have thought they were on to something. Both B and D COs were in contact and we had to have a couple of Hueys come in and encircle the hill with smoke so they could land to extract us without getting hit by enemy fire. Delta was in a desperate situation. Auggie was creeping fire into his position 25 meters at a time. He was taking shrapnel through the trees. I know he and his small team were pinned down and Delta was fragmented into two or more groups. Then we were gone. Outta there and off to a high speed chase of a VC held ville some 9 clicks east of Professional (maybe 25 clicks away from where we left Delta in a lurch). Thats where Talley bought the farm on 12/6/69. In Old Hau Duc with D 1/46. On the same day I watched my field 1st sgt, Isaac Pfaughn of B 1/46 succumb to wounds received from a booby trapped claymore east of Pro. He was a damn fine soldier. Was awarded the Silver Star for his bravery in Hiep Duc in August '69. Hailed from Shreveport LA. If I had it to do again, I'd want him with me.

Frank, feeling real bad.

Frank Fortuna 69-70

(PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD)

C COMPANY 1 BN. 1 INFANTRY 11 LIB
CHRISTMAS TREE

Doc, I was reading about your soap in the mail and it reminded me of a care package I got in Dec of 69. As usual we were out in the bush and a supply chopper came in with some ammo and mail. Just before they took off they kicked off a cardboard box addressed to me. My birthday had just passed which I had celebrated with pound cake, fruit cocktail and all the beans and weenies I could eat! So I expected it to contain some ketchup, hot sauce, vienna sausage, and maybe a six pack of Coors! I anxiously ripped the lid off the box and eagerly pulled back the packing paper. To my surprise inside was an artificial Christmas Tree complete with a package of decorating bulbs, tinsel, and a string of lights <G>. If you thought LAW's were difficult to hump how about a christmas tree attached to your ruck? It was two days before we got another chopper to land. They exited with the tree, bulbs, lights and a Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas! I never did get the six pack of Coors. .. Sarge ..

Gregory VandenBos 69-70

(PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD)

"BATTLEKINGS" 1st BN, 14th FA

Hail REDLEGS of 1st BN, 14th FA your battalion is once again on the active roles, with colors flying high. With the 2nd Armored Division returning to Fort Hood, Texas the battalion once again has a home. I am presently putting together a comprehensive battalion historical document of the "BATTLEKINGS" war-time exploits in World War II with the 2d AD and during Nam with the 198th and the Americal. As a Nam vet myself I find it important that the soldiers of the battalion know their self lineage and of the soldiers who served proudly with the "BATTLEKINGS" past. We are proud of you all and the glorious history that you have left us. My information on the battalion during Nam is pretty slim right now which is why I am asking for your assistance, anything that you may have will be incorporated into the battalions official history. I ask for your assistance in this endeavor.

Through its history the battalion has come under various logos "BATTLEKINGS" "WARBONNETS" and currently "STEEL WARRIORS". Our present mission puts us in direct support of 2d BDE (ST. LO"), 2D ad. Our piece is the M109A4 (155mm) self-propelled howitzer, 8 in each firing battery, 24 in each battalion. On New Years Day the "STEEL WARRIORS" begin deployment to the National Training Center, Ft Irwin, California for 30 days.

The address of the battalion is as follows:

HBB 1st Bn, 14th FA (REGT)
Ft Hood, Tx 76544

Command Sergeant Major
duty phone: [REDACTED]
home phone: [REDACTED]

"STEEL WARRIORS" LEAD THE WAY.

Lawrence L. Cross
CSM, USA
Command Sergeant Major

HISTORY
THIRD BATTALION, FIRST INFANTRY

The following is an outline of the history of the Third Battalion, First Infantry that will be committed to memory. You should be familiar with the longer version of the Battalion history that is posted on your unit bulletin board.

1. The date of the initial activation of the First Infantry was 3 March 1791.
2. The date of current activation of the Third Battalion, First Infantry, 11th Infantry Brigade was 1 July 1966.
3. Campaigns in which the First Infantry has participated:
War of Independence
War of 1812
Indian Wars, 1832-1837
Mexican War
Civil War
Spanish American War
Philippine Insurrection
World Wars I & II
4. Awards and decorations received by the First Infantry:
Maffin Bay, Dutch New Guinea, 1944
Distinguished Unit Citation (Third Battalion)
Philippines, 1945
Philippine Presidential Citation

5. Notables who have served with the First Infantry:

Captain William Henry Harrison
Captain Meriwether Lewis
Lieutenant Zebulon Pike
Colonel Zachary Taylor
Captain Ulysses S. Grant
Captain Robert E. Lee
Colonel William R. Shafter
Lieutenant Nathan F. Twining

LZ BAYONET

I have PTSD, a bad liver contaminated by unknown agents and suffer from seizures or blackouts since the time I was hit in the head by shrapnel when LZ Bayonet was overrun. I realize a lot of us were 'programmed' as part of a new experimental training and called Special Forces Rangers, but please try to remember. I'll still guard your back.

Sincerely
Thomas L Sandoz
[REDACTED]

San Antonio, TX 78225-2509

P.S. I need your help. Please contact me I'm having trouble with the VA

Tom, I recommend you go to your local D.A.V. They will give you a service officer to help you with your claim.

PNC Roland T. Castronova

Looking for 11 LIB

I am happy to be a member of the Americal Division. I would appreciate information on the cost of becoming a lifetime member. I need to renew my dues; if you can mail me information I'd appreciate it.

I am sending a poem that I would like to share with all the members who served in Vietnam. I would like to find some of the guys who I served with in Vietnam between 8-68 and 11-68. I was medevaced from the 312 EVAC Hospital in November 1968 without a chance to say goodbye to any of my friends. I was assigned to 1/20 INF 11th INB at Duc Pho and 23rd Adm Group Unit II at Chu Lai. I was known as "Okie From Muskogee". I would be pleased to hear from anyone in the outfit who remembers me.

Larry Lee Settemyre
[REDACTED]
Stilwell OK 74960
[REDACTED]

COMPANY C 39 ENGINEERS
CANDY BARS

We used to refer to the tropical bars as "John Wayne" bars 'cause they were so tough. Even when you'd throw them to the kids they'd usually throw them back 'cause they didn't like 'em either. The only human I ever met who actually liked them was our Platoon Sgt. When I was RTO he would stick several of them in the straps of my PRC-25 so's he could help himself when we were out on sweep. I didn't mind since I was quite sure they were probably bulletproof. Also those Ex-Lax bars you got out of C-ration packs were also quite unpopular. Hardly anyone ever needed one anyway.

James (Big Ed) Eddington 69-70

(PRODIGY BULLETIN BOARD)

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY
3D BATTALION FIRST INFANTRY 11TH INFANTRY BRIGADE
APO San Francisco 96557

The 11th Infantry Brigade was originally organized in the Regular Army on 4 December 1917 at Camp Forrest, Georgia, as an element of the 6th Division and served as a part of the Division during World War I. At that time the brigade included the 51st and 52nd Infantry Regiments and one machine gun battalion. The brigade was in the line for approximately 40 days during the latter part of 1918. Its first assignment with the 6th Division was in the Vosges Mountains under French control. While in the Vosges, the brigade participated in training, in active defense roles (i.e., defense plus patrolling), and in several route marches. The marching was part of the "Belfort Ruse", a diversionary action designed to draw German attention away from the Allied Meuse-Argonne Offensive. It was for this activity in the Vosges, from late August to October, that the 11th Brigade earned credit for the "Alsace 1918" campaign. On 10 October 1918 the 11th Brigade with the 6th Division began moving into First Army Reserve, in the Clermont Area, for the Meuse-Argonne Offensive. On 2 November, the division moved forward to become 1 Corps reserve, with the brigade utilized as a reconnaissance unit seeking to maintain contact with the Germans. The brigade was not committed to an attack role during this period. On 11 November 1918, the brigade and the division were back in First Army Reserve. It was for its action during the period 12 October-11 November that the 11th Brigade received credit for the Meuse-Argonne campaign. After inactivation in 1921, the 11th Brigade was assigned, on inactive status, variously to the 6th Division in 1939, and was completely disbanded, even as an inactive unit, on 1 July 1940. The 11th Brigade was reconstituted on 15 April 1966 as a Regular Army unit, and was activated on 1 July 1966, just 26 years to the day after being disbanded. The Brigade as currently organized, consists of the following units:

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 11th Infantry Brigade
3d Battalion, 1st Infantry
4th Battalion, 3d Infantry
1st Battalion, 20th Infantry
Troop E, 1st Cavalry
6th Military Police Company (-)
4th Battalion, 3d Infantry

CONGRATULATIONS! YOU ARE ON YOUR WAY HOME

During the past few moments you have been clearing the AG Out-processing team.

If you are an E7, E8 or E9, you will handcarry your records and MTA to the Chu Lai terminal to report for your flight reservations. All senior NCO's are permitted to make flight reservations 6 days prior to departure date.

If you are an E1 through E6 you should call the Chu Lai Terminal after you have completed outprocessing. You will also handcarry your records with you. Your MTA (Military Travel Authorization) will be waiting for you at the air terminal. For reservations call: Chu Lai 3710. (Everyone should be at the terminal NLT 0700 hours the following morning).

Before boarding the plane you will be required to have the following items:

1. Trim haircut, sideburns, (mustache if applicable)
2. Clean uniform with appropriate insignias
3. Clean polished boots
4. I.D. card, MAVC 5 card, and dog tags
5. Personal baggage and "DON't forget your 201 FILE"

Within the next 24 hours you should be leaving Chu Lai. After that home is about 3 days and 10,000 miles away.

HAVE A GOOD TRIP HOME, GOOD LUCK!!

---IMPORTANT-----IMPORTANT-----IMPORTANT-----

At the Returned Detachment you will convert your MPC to U.S. currency. To convert up to \$200.00 MPC, all you need is your I.D. card and MACV 5 card.

To convert any amount over \$200.00 MPC you must have a COMMANDERS CERTIFICATE, I.D. CARD, MACV 5 CARD. COMMANDERS CERTIFICATES ARE OBTAINABLE FROM YOUR UNIT COMMANDER. Don't leave Chu Lai without a COMMANDERS CERTIFICATE if you plan to convert more than \$200.00 MPC.

---IMPORTANT-----IMPORTANT-----IMPORTANT-----

11th INFANTRY BRIGADE

To whom it may concern:

My name is Ruben Ortiz I was a member of the 1st Battalion 20th Infantry Brigade Americal Division. I would like to know how I can obtain information concerning the 11th Infantry Brigade. We left for Vietnam in 1967 from Schofield Barracks, Oahu Hawaii. I served with the 1st of the 20th 11th Infantry Brigade from 1966 when it was activated to 1969 when it was ETS. Would appreciate any information you can send me.

Ruben A Ortiz

[REDACTED]
Tucson AZ 85735

P.S. Anyone with full information of the 11th Infantry Brigade complete history please send to Ruben

Roland T. Castronova

Dear Mr Castronova:

I was referred to you by Mr Bernard Chase. I am trying to find any books written about the Americal Division or the 196th Brigade during the Vietnam War. Are there any official histories? I would like to be able to have something to show about what we did or tried to do, without a bunch of stuff about how we were all losers and psychos, if you know what I mean. Thanks for your time and any information you may have.

Andrew Teague

[REDACTED]
Taylorsville NC 28681

198 LIB 1BN 6th INF.

America

My name is Leroy L Ferguson Jr. son of Leroy Ferguson, deceased service member who served with the Americal during The Vietnam War

My father lost his life on 9 May 1968 serving in the Quang Tin province. Is there any way possible that you have any documentation or info on anyone that served with him, or was with him at the time of death. Service number: RA 53 222 935.

He served with the 198th Light Infantry, CO C, 1st BN, 6th Inf. Any assistance would be helpful.

Thanks for your assistance
Leroy L. Ferguson Jr.

Home Phone: [REDACTED]

PS. Anyone who can help Leroy please give him a call.

PNC Roland Castronova

CIVIL AFFAIRS
AMERICAL DIVISION G-5

In the November/December issue of the Americal Division Newsletter, appeared a letter from Spencer Baba 2/1 Inf, 11th Inf. Bde, illustrating the activities of his battalion's civil affairs program. He further asked about what other civil affairs activities were happening in other units.

My unit was the 6th Civil Affairs Platoon, 29th Civil Affairs Company. We were OPCON to the division and worked under the division G-5. The company was stationed at III MAF headquarters in Da Nang, and our platoon operated out of Americal Division headquarter in Chu Lai. The company also had the 4th CA Platoon at Duc Pho and the 51st CA Platoon in Tam Ky, both in support of the division operations.

All CA platoons' were basically organized as follows: a platoon commander, administrative officer, platoon sergeant, military police NCO, medical specialist, and an American interpreter and one Vietnamese interpreter. The 6th CA Plt operated as far north as Tam Ky and south to Bong Song, on the Bong Song River. On occasions we would have missions which involved operations in Quang Nagi Province.

Most of our activities can generally be described as being similar to Peace Corps project. We were involved in one project to improve the agriculture in the local area by introducing a new strain of rice to the local Vietnamese farmers. One project involved the construction of a new school building in the village of Khuong Binh (2). Like Spencer Baba it must have been successful since the VC blow it up one week after it opened. We build another school at Binh Thuy on My Hue Island just south of Chu Lai. We became involved in a dozen projects which were never covered in the manuals. We were pretty much on our own as to what we wanted to do. We assisted in resupplying the Vietnamese refugee camp at Son Tra(2) when it was destroyed by the VC in 1968. At one time we even worked with the Republic of Korea troops when they were in the Americal Division AO. We also coordinated the various civic actions projects of all the units operating out of the Chu Lai base camp(Army,Navy, and Marine Corps). In working with the Navy I had the opportunity of working with a Navy Lieutenant by the name of Roger Staubach.

We also assisted the various MACV district compound within the Division's AO with any civic action project they wanted to start.

Although we worked with the Division G-5, our platoon seldom spent any time at Division HQ's, as we made a point of being out in the field every day. We generally would report into the G-5 in the morning to outline our projects for the day and move to the field for the rest of the day. Since we were not organized as a combat unit, we would return to the Division area in late afternoon. If we need to spend anytime at night in the field, we would make arrangements with one of the battalions to stay overnight in their area. Our biggest disadvantage was that our unit did not have radios and therefore could not call for assistance if we had gotten into any problem areas. Coordinating with the various combat battalion S-5's was always important to us.

Although we were not "grunts" we never considered ourselves to be "REMF" either. We were in the country-side everyday doing the job which was assigned to us. Like Spencer Baba, I left Vietnam with a sense of accomplishing something positive and worthwhile during my tour.

Sincerely

6th CA Plt, Chu-Lai 67-68

EACH CHAPTER'S FINANCES ARE SEPARATE FROM NATIONAL FINANCES. CHAPTER SET THEIR OWN DUES AND FUND THEIR OWN REUNIONS.

POEM

VIETNAM

Across the Pacific Ocean
Vietnam is the spot
Ten thousand miles from home
The spot that God forgot.
We work, we sweat, it's more than we can stand.
We're not supposed to be convicts,
But defenders of our land

We're members of the U.S. Armed Forces
Getting very little pay.
Defending people with millions
For a lousy two and a half a day.
Nobody knows we're living,
Nobody gives a damn.
At home we're forgotten
Because we belong to Uncle Sam.

When we die and go to heaven,
We'll hear Saint Peter yell,
"Let the men who served in Vietnam go through
For they have already spent their time in Hell".

We don't ask for forgiveness,
Only a helping hand
And also for peace within our land.

Larry L. Settembre

Stilwell OK 74960

Dear Roland,

I have just received my first Americal newsletter. Nice format and covers all who served in the Americal. I only served for a few months with D/6/56 Arty at Ky Hoa. I moved around a lot in country from Saigon to Chu Lai to Cam Ranh Bay to Ban Me Thout. I am trying to locate the D.U.I. of the Americal Division. I had a pair at one time and somewhere along the trail I lost or misplaced them. Do you know where I might find a pair? I noticed a picture of it on the application that you sent. Thus I thought I might try you. I cannot find them in any surplus etc. outlet.

Congratulations on the new assignment.....
Thanks for your time. Sincerely,

Neal Mortimer

Durango, Co. 81301

P.S. If anyone can help Neal find these D.U.I., please contact him.
Roland Castronova

INJURED

I would like to know if anyone remembers me being injured while on patrol. I fell and cut my knee on rusty barbed wire. My unit was C-1/6 198th Americal Division. I was in Vietnam July 1970 to November 1970. I would also like to know if anyone remembers me from the Americal Combat Center Dispensary or Madigan General Hospital Dispensary Chu Lai, Vietnam. Please publish letter in the next two issues.

Thank You
Robert J Behm

Pine Grove Pa 17963
Tel [REDACTED]

BRIEF HISTORY
FIRST INFANTRY

The first Infantry was constituted as the 2d Infantry Regiment on 3 March 1971. The new regiment was recruited in the New England states with the exception of a company recruited in Delaware and a company recruited in South Carolina. During the years 1792-1795 the regiment took part in subduing the Federated Indian Tribes and the Miami Indian Nation.

In July 1796, during the War of Independence, the regiment received the surrender of Detroit from the British.

In 1806 the regiment was detailed to explore the mysteries of the West and as a result two officers of the regiment, Captain Meriwether Lewis and Lieutenant Zebulon Pike became famous.

A victory at the Battle of Tippecanoe in November 1811 became a campaign battle cry for William Henry Harrison, who commanded a company of the regiment during the battle, in his quest to become the ninth president of the United States.

The war of 1812 found the regiment on duty in the south as well as the north and all elements of the regiment participated in the war. In the north the regiment won distinction at the Battle of Niagara and the Siege of Fort Erie. In the south the regiment won distinction by crushing the Creek Indians of Florida, and under General Andrew Jackson captured Pensacola and defended New Orleans and the Mississippi River.

The reorganization of the United States Army after the War of 1812 found the 2d, 3d, 7th and 44th Infantry Regiments combined into the 1st Infantry Regiment, and it has been the 1st Infantry ever since.

Following the War of 1812 and the reorganization the 1st Infantry was stationed in the southwest territory until 1827 when it was brought north again to garrison forts in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Illinois. Here the regiment took part in the Black Hawk War in 1832 in which that renegade and his band were destroyed. The regiment then saw service in the Seminole War in 1837.

The 1st Infantry was guarding the frontier from Minnesota to Kansas at the outbreak of the War with Mexico. Four companies of the regiment were ordered to that theater for duty with the army commanded by General Zachary Taylor, whose executive officer happened to be Jefferson Davis. Captains U.S. Grant and Robert E. Lee served with the 1st Infantry during this war. These four companies saw service at Monterey, Buena Vista and participated in the first modern amphibious landing at Vera Cruz.

At the outbreak of the Civil War elements of the 1st Infantry were on duty from Washington, D.C. to Texas. Elements of the regiment participated in the action at Liberty; Springfield; Wilson's Creek, where 1 Lt. Clay Wood won one of the first Congressional Medals of Honor awarded; New Madrid; Tiptonville; Harrisburg; Corinth; Memphis; and Vicksburg. The regiment found the regiment in New Orleans.

After the war the regiment was ordered to the Lakes Department of New York and Michigan where it remained until 1874 when it was ordered to Dakota; then to Texas in 1880; Arizona in 1882; and California in 1886. All of these moves found the regiment engaged in the various Indian campaigns.

In 1898 the regiment moved to Florida and shortly after took part in the first fight of the Spanish-American War.

In 1900 the regiment was ordered to the Philippines where it participated in the Philippine Insurrection, which involved 109 engagements for the regiment. In 1902 the regiment returned to the United States, and after four short years returned to the Philippines until 1908, when it was ordered

back to the United States to garrison Vancouver Barracks in Washington State.

1912 saw the regiment ordered to Hawaii. Due to the possibility of the German threat in the Pacific area the 1st Infantry spent the First World War guarding plants, utilities and interned enemy vessels in Hawaii.

The years 1918 to 1921 found the regiment on duty at Fort Lewis, Washington. In 1921 the regiment moved to Camp Travis, Texas, for assignment with the 2d Division. 1921 also found the regiment performing heroic duty in the San Antonio Flood.

With the declaration of a State of National Emergency in 1939, the 1st Infantry was assigned to the 6th Division on 16 October 1939. Following extensive training in Texas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Missouri, Arizona and California, the 1st Infantry, part of the sightseeing 6th Division, was on its way to Hawaii again. In the latter part of January 1944, following extensive jungle training, the 1st Infantry sailed to New Guinea. At Maffin Bay, Dutch New Guinea, the 1st Infantry received its baptism of fire in World War II. It was here that the 3d Battalion earned the Distinguished Unit Citation.

On 9 January 1945 the First assaulted the beaches at Lingayen Gulf in Northern Luzon, then drove across the central plains and on to the liberation of Bataan. The end of the war found the First engaged near Banawe.

During the Luzon campaign the regiment participated in a record 219 consecutive days of combat and was credited with killing 5,433 enemy and taking another 265 prisoners. The regiment suffered 212 KIA, 650 WIA, 238 IIA, and 3 MIA. For their action in Luzon the regiment was awarded the Philippine Presidential Citation.

The First Infantry, as part of the 6th Division, arrived in South Korea in the latter part of October 1945 and commenced occupational duties. The First Infantry maintained this posture until 20 January 1949, when it and the 6th Division were deactivated.

The 6th Division, including the First Infantry, was reactivated 4 October 1950 at Fort Ord, California. There it remained, training troops and training personnel for the Korean Conflict. On 3 April 1956 the 6th Division was again deactivated; however the colors of the First Infantry were transferred to West Point, New York, where the regiment became a NON-TOE and a TD unit training the United States Corps of Cadets.

On 15 May 1958 the First Infantry was reorganized and designated as the First Battle Group, First Infantry with station at West Point, New York. The following month the Second Battle Group, First Infantry was reactivated and assigned to the Second Infantry Division at Fort Benning, Georgia. When the Second Division moved to Korea the Second Battle Group was deactivated. In September 1965 the 2d was redesignated the 2d Bn 1st Inf and was assigned to the 196th Light Infantry Brigade at Fort Devens, Massachusetts.

The 3d Battalion 1st Infantry was currently activated 1 July 1966. There is also the First Battalion of the First Infantry at West Point, New York. The Second Battalion First Infantry, as part of the 196th Brigade, is currently in Vietnam.

The heritage of the First Infantry is a proud one. The 3d Battalion of the First Infantry is now dedicated to adding another worthy chapter to this illustrious history.

The First Infantry-Always First

***** HAVE YOU CALLED THAT BUDDY YET? *****

