

August 1986

Their will be a HAL-3 reunion in Kansas City during the summer of 1987. Between now and then we will have to do a considerable amount of work. Please note that I used the term 'we'. Don Thompson is the man on the spot who will be looking for a hotel and making some local arrangements. But as Don pointed out, he can't do it all; volunteers are needed. At this point I don't even know the jobs that must be done to assure a successful reunion. Perhaps someone who has some experience with reunions will come forward and assist us. In case you are wondering Kansas City Mo. was chosen due to its central location. Committee members thus far:

Don Thompson--location and site  
 Tom Olby--planning  
 Tom Thalmann--correspondence  
 You--TBD

**SEAWOLF PATCHES** I know that a lot of you are looking for patches. While at the Chicago Vietnam Veterans Parade I managed to talk to several manufacturers of patches. I can purchase patches in bulk 100 to 200 for \$2.75 each. The cost figure includes freight from the manufacturer to me and postage to you. However due to the front money involved I have not placed an order. If you are interested send me a check for however many patches you want. I plan to hold the checks until I have enough to place an order for 100. The manufacturer requests an 8 week delivery time. As you can see the original order of patches will take awhile. If the project goes bust-not enough orders I will return your check.

**Melioidosis** Several weeks ago I received a letter from Phillip Horn. In the letter Phillip told me that he has Melioidosis, and he wonders if anyone else in HAL-3 has contacted the disease. Naturally he says, the VA has been of no help. Melioidosis is a disease that only originates in Southeast Asia. It is a bacteria that lives in the blood that may go undetected for years. A routine blood culture test will almost always fail to detect the presence of Melioidosis because it is incubated for 24 hours. For the presence of Melioidosis to be identified the culture must be incubated for at least 72 hours. Melioidosis may remain dormant in the blood for 15 to 30 years and remain undetected and then strike with alarming swiftness, which can be fatal. Well that's all I know about Melioidosis, contact a doctor or Phillip Horn for more details.

**STATE OF THE TREASURY:**

At this instant in time I have in my envelope \$16.00 in cash and 27 stamps. This mailing will require approx 110 stamps which comes to \$24.20. Due to the size of this mailing I can no longer use the copier at work. This means that I will have to have the newsletter printed which costs more money. I've already paid for the envelopes so we're ahead at that point. As you can see if this project and reunion is to continue you must support it. Some of you already have and I'm grateful. You will notice that this letter is using small print, that too is an effort to conserve.

If you wish an updated address list please send me an SASE.

So far I have the names and addresses of 110 Seawolves. That's 110 out of approximately 3000 men and that served, which is less than 4%. Not to good. If you have the name or address of other seawolves please send them to me.

Riverine is the name of a book that is a pictorial history Brown Water Navy. Riverine has a nice section on HAL-3 that will surely stir some memories. By Jim Mesko Squadron\Signal Publications \$8.95.

**Trivia** Where did the name "SEAWOLF" originate. Was there ever a woman attached to HAL-3?

I have received a letter from Professor William Leary of the University of Georgia. He is working on the history of Helicopters in Vietnam and needs information on the Navy helicopter operations in the Delta. If you are interested in helping him, write to him at: University of Georgia, Dept. of History, Athens Georgia 30602. He asked me to send him our address list so he could write people individually. I feel that any public use of this address list would be improper.

Tom Thalmann

