November 1, 1988

TO: Mike Law

FROM: Paul Erway

SUBJECT: VHPA DATABASE

The letter from John Frank was waiting for me at my office when I
got back to work Monday. I'd been on the road for a week and had
not seen my mail for that period.

Since John will be entering individual Callsigns in the Members/
Friend database I will be able to update the Callsign database
from it starting in the near future.   However, for the period
from the July Reunion until he gets the new database structure
operational, I will need the hard copies of the new applications
to update the Callsign database.   Also, any hard copies
containing information pertinent to Gary's KIA/MIA database
should be forwarded to him.   Does the new contract with AAM
continue to provide for this? To keep it simple, John can send
me a copy of every new application and renewal and I will forward
them to Gary as I finish my review.

John has been sending me Orders, Class Rosters, and Information
Requests\Letters from the members but I have not been receiving
new applications or the renewals since we returned from the July
Reunion.   The most recent updates I have are from July. Since I
do not have the hard copies to send you, I would like to suggest
an alternate plan for updating the unit fields. When you get a
copy of the new database,   create   a label which includes the
following fields:

        MEMBER
        DIRSORT
        FIRST
        SECOND
        THIRD
        FOURTH

You can then print them out as labels on paper stock, make
corrections and send the hard copy to AAM. Don't use an index on
the database when you do this; the labels will then print out in
record order (the order in which the girls entered them).   This
should make it easier for them to enter the corrections. You
might try printing them out in blocks of 100 or 200 records in
order to keep the work organized and manageable.

I will devote my time to developing a usable Master List of Aviation Units for AAM's use. Target date for completion will be the end of January. Thereafter, I will budget part of my time to reviewing the Members/Friends database in conjunction with your efforts.

The two newest members of the Records\Database Committee are:

Roger B. Stickney   Murray L. Brooks
10041 Pt. Resolution Drive   P.O. Box 449
Anchorage, AK 99515-2228   Warrensburg, NY 12885

When these two get up to speed with Dbase I will detail Murray to work with Gary on the KIA/MIA/Dead database, Roger will work on the Class Roster Database with Peter Barber under my direction and I will update the Callsign database and keep the soon-to-be-created Units database up to date as new info comes available.

I'm returning your book under separate cover since it might slow down this letter. Many thanks for letting me borrow it.

Drop me a letter if you have questions or suggestions about updating the Units fields as discussed above.

It was good to talk to you and I'm glad to have your time and experience available to the committee. Can I welcome you back to the Records\Database Committee officially? How about Member Emeritus or Past Chairman?

Good luck in Great Britain.

Take care,

Paul

Paul Erway