

Mr Mike Law

500004  
Mr Philip D Chinnery

Dear Mike,

14th November 1994

Greetings from England, I hope you are well. Thank you for your letter of 16th October. Sorry about the delay, but I am currently working on two books and have been rather busy. Please note new address.

Thank you for the copy of the latest membership directory. I will have to order a copy of the historical reference directory sometime. It is yet another thing that I keep meaning to do. I can imagine how much work it all is, compiling the directory.

If you are heading this way sometime, give me some warning and leave some space in your suitcase. I keep meaning to list the unit info etc that I got together for my book and pass it all on to you. There are about four box files of the stuff, say about a foot deep altogether. Too much to post to you. The VHPA are quite welcome to it, as long as I can borrow bits back in the future if I ever need to. Its mostly unit historical reports from 1st Cav and 1/9th if I remember correctly.

Have you considered contacting the historian at Air Force Special Operations Command, Hurlburt Field, FL? His name is Clay McCutchan (ex Major) [REDACTED]. The 20th SOS are based there too.

You may also try to write to John Holt, [REDACTED]. He is a member of the Air Force helo pilots association and sent me some details of his time with 21st SOS in late 1968, but I could not use it in my latest book. Also has a couple of pictures.

My latest book is entitled 'Any Time, Any Place' and covers the history of the special ops squadrons from 1944 to 1994. You may find a few bits in there of use. It is published by Naval Institute Press and the ISBN number is 1-55750-037-1. Went on sale a couple of weeks ago.

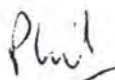
I visited the 21st SOS at RAF Alconbury last year and they still have the SEA photo album there and it does contain some newspaper cuttings as well, but you would have to visit them to check it out. I imagine the SEA histories for both units are locked up at Maxwell. If you have trouble getting them released, let me know because I have been given the name of a man on the faculty staff (special ops lecturer?) who may be able to do something.

I have been trying to motivate the Naval Institute Press to contact the VHPA with regard to selling 'Vietnam - The Helicopter War' at a good discount to the members. If the VHPA are interested in the idea, maybe someone could talk to their marketing director Tom Harnish, on [REDACTED]. Maybe the VHPA could buy a quantity from NIP at half price and sell them to the members at 25% discount, to put some dollars in your coffers?

You might also ask the Air Commando Association to run an advert in their newsletter, asking for 20/21 SOS guys to contact you. Their association is made up of Vietnam era guys. They are at 2 David Street, Unit B, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547. [REDACTED]. Ask for Jim Boney, the editor, or Dan d'Errico the secretary.

Take care of yourself.

All the best,

  
P.D. Chinnery.