

Our newly elected Governor is Angelo Malone (327), who joins Fred Ranck (327 VN) on the Board of Governors.

Airborne
Denis Parsons

Co. G 506 PIR WWII Reunion

The "G" Company reunion will be held May 12, 13, 14 and 15, 1994, at the Holiday Inn (HOLIDOME) in Lafayette, Louisiana. Wives and guests are invited. Contact **Malcolm Martin**, 110 Wembley Rd., Lafayette, Louisiana 70503. Phone (318) 984-6679.

Aviation News

The Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Assn. and the Vietnam Helicopter Crewmembers Assn. held a joint reunion in Scottsdale, Arizona over the Fourth of July long weekend. This reunion had over 900 pilots and about 150 crewmembers in attendance with their families. I don't have a complete list of 101st Assn. members that attended, but did run into **Bob Acklen**, **Jim Smith**, **Ken Mayberry**, **Dave Wolfe**, **Bob Brooks**, **Gerry Morgan**, **Larry Wagoner** and **Ken Roach**. Several mini-reunions were held for several of the 101st units that served in Vietnam and were well attended. The Ghostriders (A/158th Avn), the Phoenix (C/158th Avn), the Redskins (D/158th Avn) and the Black Widows (C/101st Avn) were the units that had these gatherings. Bob Acklen and Jim Smith did a tremendous job of attending these gatherings and spreading the word about the 101st Airborne Division Association. Bob had a table set up at the pilots' reunion headquarters and handed out applications and answered questions about our association. Our hats are off to you guys for a job well done! Our association should benefit from this by getting quite a few new members.

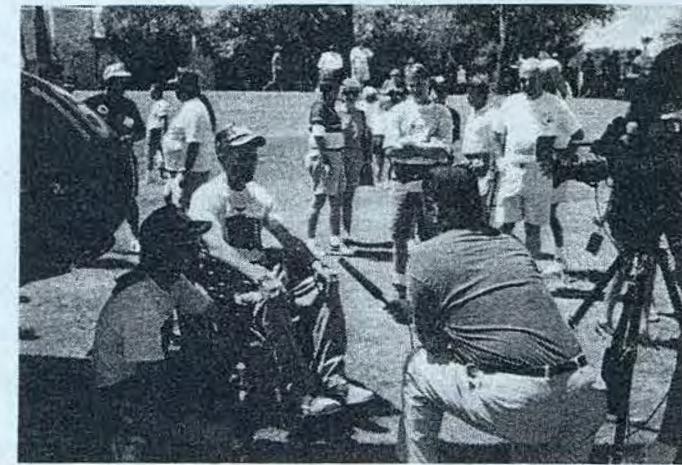


Bob Acklen sitting at his 101st Association table at the VHPA Reunion, July 1993 in Scottsdale, AZ. (Frazier photo)

'606' Returns to the Nest

During the reunion in Scottsdale, an unbelievable story unfolded to make it a gathering worth remembering. One of our helicopters that the 101st Division used in Vietnam was present to welcome all of us — old '606' is still alive and well!

The story started a couple of years ago when we started researching what ever happened to the original 20 UH-1H Huey Helicopters that were issued to C company, 158th Avn. Bn. at Ft. Riley, Kansas prior to being deployed to Vietnam. Mike Sloniker, who was working in the Pentagon at the time generously did the research and found eight of the original twenty helicopters. Aircraft 67-17606 was found in an Army National Guard unit in Phoenix, Arizona.



Dave Rayburn and Ken Mayberry being interviewed by a Phoenix TV station. (Frazier photo)

This really surprised all of us because the last time we saw this aircraft it was used in the evacuation of Firebase Ripcord in 1970 and received a lot of damage from a mortar round that landed near it on Ripcord. Ken Mayberry and Dave Rayburn were the pilots flying 606 that day and after evacuating the five men that were seriously wounded by the mortar round to the closest medical facilities, they immediately shut the aircraft down there due to damages incurred. Everyone thought the helicopter was probably dumped into the South China Sea because of the damage it received. Little did we know that a "Phoenix" bird would end up in Phoenix, AZ, and at a "Phoenix" reunion 23 years later.

Jack Glennon, a former Phoenix pilot and our ringleader for reunions wrote the National Guard unit several months ago and asked if they could bring '606' to the reunion. Most of the twenty or so of us that attended the reunion heard about it when we arrived and had our fingers crossed but we didn't have a firm commitment from the unit. That morning, I heard and saw a Huey in the air from



L to R: Bill Brown, Jack Glennon, Ken Mayberry, Larry Frazier, Tom Gladden and John Michaelson with A/C 67-17606 in Phoenix. (Frazier photo)

our hotel and couldn't wait to get over to see if it was '606'. They landed it behind the Registry Resort which was the headquarters for the VHPA. We couldn't believe it! Most of the Phoenix pilots present had flown '606' at one time or another, but to have three aircraft



Phoenix with A/C '606' — L to R: Bob Brooks, Larry Frazier, Dave Wolfe, John Kamps (rear), Ken Mayberry, Dave Rayburn, Jack Glennon and John Michaelson. (Frazier photo)

commanders present that flew her on a regular basis there was unbelievable. **Bob Brooks** picked the aircraft up at the factory and flew it to Ft. Riley, **Jamie Navarette** was the first A/C and took it to Vietnam. **Jack Glennon** flew the helicopter on a regular basis during his tour until he went home in early 1970 and **Ken Mayberry** became the aircraft commander and was the last one to fly it. Two local television stations heard this story unfolding and came over to interview these pilots. We all met **Tom Gladden** the current crew chief and several pilots tried to perform preflight inspections, etc. Several fuselage patches were very obvious, even though the aircraft has had a new tailboom, paint, etc. What a day! A lot of memories came back that day and it won't be one we'll soon forget either. The reunion wasn't another 'Tailhook', but I did overhear someone calling it 'Cargo Hook.' A good time was had by all and the pilots and crewmembers are planning next year's reunion in Philadelphia.

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Find The Buddies You Served With In The Army

How To Locate Anyone Who Is Or Has Been In The Military:
Armed Forces Locator Directory

The book that has helped thousands locate thousands!

The 1993 edition has been expanded to 264 pages which describe every possible method to locate current, retired, and former members of Armed Forces.

Here is some of the valuable information covered in this unique book:

- How to locate any of 27 million veterans.
- How to obtain copies of individual military personnel and medical records.
- How to obtain copies of unit rosters (with individual names and service numbers), after action reports and many other records and reports.
- How to obtain someone's Social Security number.
- And numerous other ways to locate hard to find people (military or civilian) even without their Social Security number.

The author, Lt. Col. Richard S. Johnson (US Army, Retired), is the nation's foremost expert on locating people with a military connection.

Foreword by General William C. Westmoreland.

One free Surname Search from the National Telephone Directory with each book purchased. This is a \$30.00 value.

Send check, money order or VISA/MastCard number and expirations date for \$23.00 (which includes postage and handling) to:

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