

DASPO

Combat Photographers Association

8700 W. North Terrace, Niles, IL 60714 847-400-4984



November 4, 2014

Michael Kamins, President
FPC Corporation
[REDACTED]

Dear Mike:

During the Vietnam War, I served in the US Army as a Pictorial Unit Commander with a military group called DASPO - Department of the Army Special Photo Office. DASPO was conceived to be a "Delta Force" type photo unit (without terrorist overtones) long before that concept was conceived in the mid-70's. The organization objective was to deploy swiftly responding teams to Department of the Army orders to cover military subjects worldwide. DASPO was comprised of elite, rapidly reacting, highly mobile Army photo teams of handpicked professional cameramen, complete with the finest equipment and highest security clearances, capable of producing quality photo results. Top Secret missions were unencumbered by Army command red tape.

During September 2015-February 2016, collected images captured on film by DASPO Combat Photographers will be exhibited at Chicago's premier Pritzker Military Museum & Library (PMML). The photos were shot by DASPO personnel assigned to its Pacific Detachment Team "C" in Vietnam. This is an emotional collection of award winning Vietnam combat photos and motion pictures never seen before in Chicago. This anthology is entitled "FACES OF WAR". It recognizes and salutes U.S. Army Vietnam veterans for their courage, valor, sacrifice and service.

I'm proud of the men with whom I served as we present DASPO's "FACES OF WAR". In the course of twelve years, 1962-1974, only 208 men served in the Pacific Detachment. Of those, 2 were killed in action, 11 received Purple Hearts, 1 received a Silver Star, 1 a Bronze Star with V-device, 4 Bronze Stars, 3 Air Medals, and 5 Army Commendation Medals. They made great sacrifices, including putting their lives on the line.



Photo: SFC Alfred Batungbacal

DASPO photographers were prolific. A web magazine named FOLD3 catalogs 11,500 photos and 11,500 captions from which to choose. Many more photos are logged in the US National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) as well as the US Army Heritage and Education Center (USAHEC).

Mike, we need you to help out. We have to raise a minimum of \$25,000 to make the Exhibit a reality, and another \$25,000 to create an enhanced marketing campaign to promote attendance. In a joint effort with the Pritzker (PMML) folks, we are reaching out to our friends, corporate sponsors, camera and film manufacturers, and other supporters for funding. All contributions are 501(c)3 tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law. You will also be funding PMML's plan for a TV program around the Exhibit which will air on Chicago Public Television, a live webcast, and a podcast that will be available for downloading or for viewing on the PMML website.

The Exhibit is being displayed in the heart of Chicago's cultural district, in conjunction with an organization that is dedicated to collecting, preserving, and sharing the stories and memories of Regular Army and citizen soldiers. The Pritzker Military Museum & Library (pritzkermilitary.org) is located at the corner of Chicago's beautiful Michigan Avenue and Monroe Street, across from the Art Institute and Millennium Park. It is an easily accessible and attractive new venue housed on three floors in the recently renovated historic Monroe Building.



PRITZKER
MILITARY

MUSEUM & LIBRARY

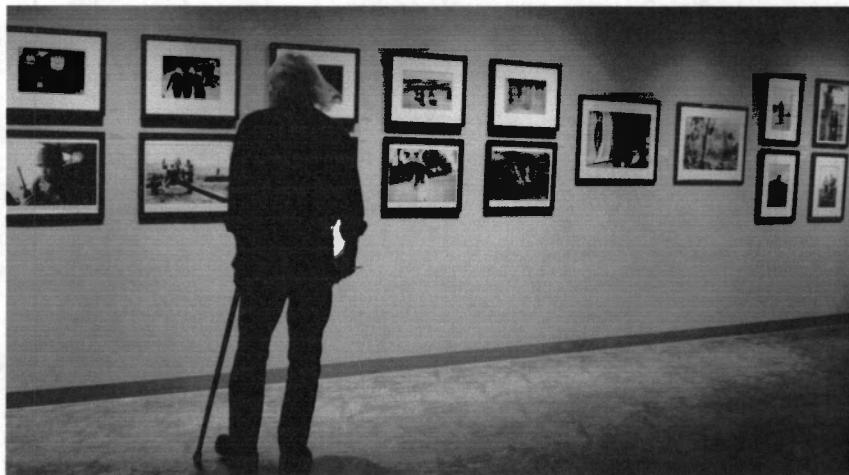


Former DASPO members will be attending a Reunion, at their own expense, that will run concurrent with the opening of the Exhibit in September 2015. The Reunion and Exhibit will afford them the chance to continue their pride in a shared war experience. And most importantly, a sense of love for their fellow combat photographer veterans. It is this common thread of experience that holds these brave men of DASPO together today . . . even after 50 years.

Mike, you have the opportunity to ensure that our DASPO Combat Photographers, and all those who served in Vietnam, are honored by this Exhibit. Think of what it will mean to these men when they come to Chicago and see their photographic work displayed for the first time.

With your contribution you will be invited to the Opening Reception (date to be determined) in September 2015 where you can tour this great Exhibit and meet the

men of DASPO and their ladies. Your generosity will make you part of the DASPO Exhibit as well as a participant in the National 50th Commemoration of the Vietnam War being observed nationwide. PMML is an official commemorative partner of the United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration.



DASPO photo exhibit evokes memories for a Vietnam combat veteran wounded in action. The collection was presented in 2011 at Cardinal Stritch University, Northwestern Mutual Art Gallery, Milwaukee, WI.

A full list of sponsorship levels and their accompanying benefits is attached. An investment in "FACES OF WAR" is your contribution to telling and preserving the story of those who served in the Vietnam War. PMML looks forward to discussing how their organization can partner with you on this project. For more information about sponsorships, contact PMML's Director of Development, Jacquelyn Bonavia, at 312-374-9333, ext 2001, jbonavia@pritzkermilitary.org. Or you can simply send a check now made payable to: Pritzker Military Museum & Library, 104 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60603. Please mention DASPO "FACES OF WAR" in the memo section. And don't forget to take your tax deduction for 2014. All contributions are tax deductible 501(c)3 to the extent allowed by the law.

Veterans Day is just days away. What better way to honor these DASPO veterans than to have their backs by making a Supporting Sponsor level contribution showing your appreciation for their efforts and sacrifices.

Thanks for being a grateful American.

William D. San Hamel
President
DASPO Combat Photographers Association