



12-1980

164th Infantry News: December 1980

164th Infantry Association

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The 164th INFANTRY News

Vol. 10 Number 4

1980 is our 35th Ass'n Yr.

December, 1980

164th Infantry Assn. Elects New President

GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN VETERANS

GRAYDON E. CADWELL, PRESIDENT

P.O. BOX 1141 MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55440

IT ISN'T THE COST OF BELONGING - IT'S THE PRICE YOU PAID TO BE ELIGIBLE



10/16/80

Graydon E. Cadwell
President
VMF 223, USMC
Minneapolis, MN.

Al Bonney
Ex. Sect & Sr. V.P.
B-1-5 1st Mar Div
Brunswick, ME

Harry R. Horsman
Director, SE Region
G-2-1 1st Mar Div
Tallahassee, FL.

Kurt Ackermann
V.P. Central States Region
U.S.S. Fuller
Rivardale, IL

Wallace B. Stanford, Jr.
V.P. West Coast Region
ComAmphFr SoPac 1st Mar Div
West Covina, CA.

Ray L. Sawyer
Secretary
164th Inf Americal Div
Minneapolis, MN

Donald Van Slyke
Treasurer
164th Inf Americal Div
St. Paul, MN.

Wm. "Bill" Weber
Director
1st Engr Bn 1st Mar Div
Melbourne, Australia

John C. Mueller
Director
U.S.S. Fuller
Millwaukie, OR.

H. Andrew Brodecki
Director, NE Region
G-2-1 1st Mar Div
Reading, MA.

E.G. "Johnny" Johnston
Founder & Director
Air Gp USS Enterprise
Long Beach, MS.

Lester Bales, Jr.
Director
1st Pioneers 1st Mar Div
Zephyrhills, FL.

Charles Brejjak
Director & Past President
M-3-1 1st Mar Div
Seattle, WA.

Marvin Mauch
Director
164th Inf Americal Div
Benson, MN.

Art Guttau
Director
6th Seabee Bn.
Mondamin, IA.

R. John Remillong
President, 164th Infantry Association
304 16th. St. S.W.
Jamestown, ND.58401

Dear John,

Gladys and I wish to forward our thanks to you and your excellent committee for the wonderful reunion and the gracious hospitality you extended to us.

It was a very rewarding experience meeting some of the 164 veterans that I have written to over the past 3 and 1/2 years.

Trust that in my correspondence with members of the 164 that live far from North Dakota, I will inform them of the grand visit and reunion we shared with their former comrades.

Yours in Comradeship

Graydon
Graydon E. Cadwell



Erwin A. Ventsch is a native of Van Hook, North Dakota. In April, 1941, he was inducted into the service and sent to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, where he was assigned to Co. A, 164th Infantry. In New Caledonia he joined the "Peep Troops" and later was sent to the 132nd Infantry where he served as a platoon sergeant in Co. A. In January, 1945, he was selected to return to the U.S.A. through the rotating system. In the states he served in a training cadre at Fort Leonard Wood, MO.

Erv has been active in veterans affairs and has belonged to the American Legion for 36 years.

After his military service, he worked for the Soil Conservation Service for 31 years. He then worked for Brown & Root Western on the McClusky Canal for 6 years as their engineer.

Presently he is enjoying retirement which includes fishing, hunting, trapping, traveling and whatever else a person of 64 years can still enjoy!!!

A NON-PROFIT NATIONAL VETERANS ASSOCIATION

HELP — the postage rates are skyrocketing — help us cut costs by reporting address changes to your Associations Secretary.

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS are available to members at a cost of \$50.00. As of this date we have 24 LIFE MEMBERS.

NOTICE—If your membership is in arrears of 2 or more years as of Jan 1, 1981 — your name will be placed in the inactive file and no longer will receive the 164th Infantry "News". Check the date on your membership card.

Chaplain's Corner



ELLIOT C. AANDAHL

REMEMBER

This is a memorial service for us 164th Infantry men — a time of remembrance. We ex-servicemen remember the horror of Pearl Harbor, the agony of Guadalcanal, the trauma of Normandy, the ferocity of Iwo Jima, and the costly campaign for Okinawa. We remember today our gallant comrades who paid the supreme sacrifice of their lives that we as a nation might survive and live in freedom.

However, we regret that our memories are so short — we are prone to forget. Let me quote from Guadalcanal Action Recalled, "To those of us who enjoy the almost unbelievable freedoms, blessings, and opportunities offered by the United States, the tendency among many of us, is to quietly forget those great deeds and painful sacrifices which others have performed and endured to ensure a continuation of our

way of life." That tendency seems almost deliberate at times.

So we find ourselves in our present dilemma. Our freedoms are again threatened by our indifference and laxity as to our posture of defense. The strength as well as the morale of our armed forces today is deplorable, if not tragic. The indifference of our citizens, often open opposition of our politicians is appalling. Our freedoms, as well as our way of life, are threatened again. We need to revive our memories so that we can take corrective actions, so that we can shore-up our defensive posture while there is time, before catastrophe overtake us. Remember, "Eternal vigilance is the price of freedom".

WHAT WE MUST DO

First, we need to restore our strength. "Be Strong" is the admonition for today from the WORD (2 Timothy 2:1-8) In the light of our weaknesses we need to restore our posture of strength. Only thus can we hope to maintain the peace we so sincerely desire. Peace thru Strength is the slogan for today.

Secondly, there is the matter of Endurance. There is the element of complacency that is plaguing us today, forever chipping away and sapping our strength. We as soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen know how important it is to endure, to hang-in-there as we did in the grim days of Guadalcanal, to sacrifice our very lives if necessary so that we could come out victorious. Even in peace time we must be willing to sacrifice, endure hardship, if we wish to retain our freedoms. "There can be no substitute for victory" General MacArthur admonished us.

Thirdly, there is the necessity of Dedication. The indifference that has gripped our nation and its citizens is appalling. America must awake! We must in the immortal words of Abraham Lincoln, "It is for us the living to rededicate ourselves to the unfinished task before us" so that our freedoms can be preserved, and "that government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth".

Elliot C. Aandahl
Chaplain — 164th Inf.

From the "Guadalcanal Echoes" — "It isn't the cost of belonging — it's the price you paid to be eligible".

On that note then, just a reminder to pay your 1981 dues to stay a member in good standing of the 164th Inf. Association. By sending your 1981 dues now it will save your Association postage fees needed to send a dues reminder.

Letters . . .

Lake Forest
8-19-1980

Dear Ervin,

I went to the "Drake" in Oak Brook, Aug. 9, and was lucky to meet Marvin Mauch. We kept looking at each other quite a while and the more we talked the more certain we were of having seen each other. It was on Bougainville 44-45. Marv was company clerk and I was the company dog-robber. It sure would be fun to see some of those people I remember. When time permits I'll come to a reunion, I understand you have them. I am retired from the Sunbeam Corp. where I served and worked 43 years. Now my wife cooks for a rich lady and you would guess I dog-rob or serve or whatever you call it. All this will eventually come to an end and then there will be time to bum around while we still work. Send any correspondence to 1291 Elm Tree Rd., Lake Forest, Ill 60045.

The Waupaca address is our home but we only get to go there once or twice a month. The Waupaca address is valid and any mail there reaches us eventually.

From: Karl Sternberg
1291 Elm Tree Road
Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

Dear Editor,

In your last addition you encourage members to send in stories.

I submit the enclosed story. It is not the usual blood and guts but did actually happen.

I joined the 164th Infantry at Camp Claiborne, a Minnesota draftee, and stayed with it through the Phillipine campaign as a member of the Medical Detachment of the 164th.

Sincerely yours,
Edward F. Mulligan
1032 Rossmore Ave.
Detroit Lakes, Mn.

Hi All:

Have a wonderful reunion. Wish we could be there, but again my appointment at Spinal Cord Hospital, Houston, falls on just about the same date.

Greet all from Bette and I. We feel this appropriate from us:

This paper may crumble,
The ink may fade;
But never the memories
Of the friends we've made.

God Bless,
Bette and Bill Tucker
103 Meadowdale
Chickasha, OK 73018

The 164th Infantry News

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Box 1111, Bismarck, ND 58502

KEITH P. PARSONS
Editor

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Letters ...

Sept. 3, 1980

Dear Don,

Saw an ad in the Legion Magazine for an October reunion of the 164th Assn. I've looked for that for years. I'm not a member of the Assn., but would like to join and attend the reunion in October. I was with the 164th Inf. when they were recalled in 1950.

Hope to hear from you.

Herb Biss,
Goodrich, ND 58444

Dec. 1, 1980

The 164 Infantry News
Mr. Keith Parsons, Editor

Dear Keith:

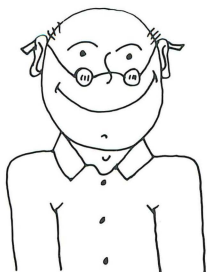
I have been chosen to be a trip leader of the enclosed trip brochure. If you remember, we discussed the same at the reunion in Jamestown in October.

We have to have at least fifteen passengers or more in order to make the trip. Anyone wishing to make this trip should mail their deposit to me made out to Franklin Travel, Inc. no later than February 1, 1981. This is scheduled for two to a room occupancy. For further information contact Franklin Travel, Inc., 344 Suburban Station Building, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103.

I hope you will do me the favor of getting this information in the next issue of 'The 164th News'. Thank you in advance.

Yours in Comradeship,
Lyndin G. (Pat) McCreary
RR 1, Box 47
Carrington, No. Dak.
58421

MOST GOOD AMERICANS
CAN STILL SMILE AT
THE RESULTS OF THE
ELECTION BECAUSE
MANY HAVE JUST
LEARNED THAT THE
SYSTEM STILL WORKS!



ABBOTT
11/8/80
OBERLIN, I.A.

With reference to Suggested Itinerary mailed to you November 14 attached to letter of same date from Donald K. Graham, President, Franklin Travel, Inc.:

Price includes:

Air from Los Angeles around to Los Angeles (Los Angeles/Fiji/Honiara/Fiji/Los Angeles)

Hotels — One night coming and one night going, Fiji; five nights, Honiara

Transfers from Airports to hotels and return

***Sightseeing**, Honiara, as listed (from brochure)

Add \$100 to \$140 per person for meals.
RATE DOES NOT INCLUDE AIRLINE COSTS FROM HOME TOWN TO LOS ANGELES AND RETURN.

Price is \$2,150.000 — **subject to change.**

Deposit to register: \$200.00.

* The heaviest fighting of the war occurred along the Point Cruz line, just six miles west of Henderson Field. See the Red Beach area, Tenaru, Bloody Ridge, Kokumbona, Vilu Village for war relics, Cape Esperance, perhaps a motorlaunch trip to Tulagi, a visit to Sgt. Major Jacob Vouza's village.

FRANKLIN TRAVEL,
INC.
344 Suburban Station
Building
Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania 19103

12-3-80

Hi Keith,

Just a note to ask you if you can get me a few of the 164th shoulder patches. Recently I have had a couple fellows ask for them or to let them know where they could get some.

We could use a few down here, so if you have them in Bismarck let me know the cost and will get the cash to you.

Have a Merry one,
Sincerely,
Roy Sawyer

A Correction:

In the June issue of the 164th Infantry News, the article about Ike Forde of L Co. had his address listed wrong. His correct address is:

Everett Forde
700 Como Ave.
Apt. 5
St. Paul, MN 55103

Thanks to Ed Murphy of Fargo, ND for the correct information.
Editor.

LTC Anton C. Beer, USA
(Ret)

211 7th Avenue SW
Mandan, ND 58554

Dear Colonel Beer:

I am presently writing a narrative history of the Guadalcanal Campaign, covering the period August-November, 1942.

It is my understanding that you served as a platoon leader with K Company, 164th Infantry, at that time, and that you were involved in the defense of Bloody Ridge in late October, 1942.

I will be basing my book on the eyewitness accounts of participants, so would much appreciate any information that you feel you can provide, particularly a detailed account of your experiences.

I shall be looking forward to hearing from you.

Cordially,
Eric M. Hammel

Editor's Note: Some of you may wish to contact Mr. Hammel & relate incidents or experiences.

9-21-80

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the stubs for the drawing and check for the tickets and \$5.00 for my 1981 dues.

Sorry I forgot to send them sooner, but I can't make it to the reunion as my wife is unable to travel that far due to a bad car accident.

Sincerely,
Vincent J. Schmitt
1003 — 6th Ave. NW
Rochester, MN

Sept. 9, 1980

Dear Sir:

I am sorry to say that Donald and I won't be able to attend the 164th Inf. Assn. meeting in October. Donald is in the Americana Healthcare Center, 1315 So. Univ. Drive, Fargo, ND. We really had planned on it this year.

Sincerely,
Gertrude Staley
912 — 11th St. So.
Moorhead, MN 56560

9/3/80

Hi All,

Enclosed are reservations for my wife, Dorothy, and myself (\$40.00). Also \$5.00 for the 1981 dues for the 164th. Also \$5.00 for the unmentioned, 5 of which are enclosed.

Get my winner in and see you on the 10th of October. We will be staying at the Holiday Inn.

Sincerely,
Russ Landgren



Letters . . .

From: Don Hoffman, Planning
Comm. Chm.
164th Inf. Assoc. 38th
Reunion
702 12th Ave. SE
Jamestown, ND 58401
Nov. 1, 1980

To whom it may concern:

Subject: Report on 38th reunion of
164th Inf. Assoc. held at Jamestown
Oct. 10-11-12, 1980.

Shortly after the 37th reunion, preliminary plans were started for the 38th reunion to be held in Jamestown. Local former 164 personnel were contacted and asked to attend a kickoff meeting to form the reunion planning committee. Chairmen were appointed for program, finance, registration, transportation, entertainment, publicity, housing, and food. Meetings were held on a monthly basis and during the month before the reunion on a semiweekly basis. We were very fortunate in having Louis Hanson as finance chm. as he set up a very accurate and detailed system of record keeping.

Early in the planning, the committee agreed that a good reunion could not be properly financed from registration income alone. It was decided to offer \$5.00 raffle tickets to all known 164 members that were mailed registration information. This program was quite effective.

Local organizations that have legalized gambling were also contacted for contributions. Their response was a key factor in the financial success of this reunion. The contributing organizations were VFW Post 760, Eagles Aerie, and Knights of Columbus.

A reunion headquarters consisting of registration section and courtesy car coordinating center was set up in a banquet room in the VFW building on the opening morning of the reunion. This

headquarters was maintained until the close of the reunion on Sunday. A special outside phone was included in the hq.

The transportation chm. obtained the free use of courtesy cars from the two local dealers, R.M. Stoudt, Inc. and Paul Liechty Used Auto Sales. Volunteer drivers from the VFW, Am. Legion, Eagles, and KC were used and we plan to include them as guests at an appreciation night later. Don Baugh did a fine job as transportation chm.

The staff of the registration committee consisted of Loretta Aippersbach, Betty Smith, Norma Kaiser, Muriel Johnson, and Zelma Remmilong. Roger Smith assisted with preregistration records. A total of 171 men and 100 women were registered.

The local civic center was rented for the reunion banquet and dance. The Eagles club catered the banquet. Dignitaries attending the banquet included Gov. Link, Jamestown mayor Allwyn DeGroot, Bill Dumphy, Pres. of Americal Div. and Graydon Cadwell, Pres. of Quada canal Campaign Veterans. Other guests included commanders of local veterans organizations. Blaise Johnson of Jamestown was the main speaker. 389 were served at the banquet (including guests and color guards). 164 Assoc. President John Remillong, Chm. Don Hoffman, and James Aippersbach, facilities chm., were in charge.

The memorial services and business meeting was held at the VFW Post 760 clubrooms.

A ladies style show and noon luncheon was held at the Holiday Inn Zelma Remillong and Sully Havelick were in charge. 129 served.

A Sunday breakfast was served at the VFW clubrooms. Bob Havelick was chairman.

The combined color guards of the American Legion and VFW posted and

retired the colors at the memorial services-business meeting sessions and at the reunion banquet. The local DAV chapter placed U.S. flags on the streets during the three days of the reunion.

A pre-reunion press release was carried in the local paper but no Associated Press story was issued from the paper though the story was requested by our publicity committee chm. After the reunion Jack Evans, retired editor of the Jamestown Sun, wrote a very good article covering the event. Our planning committee regrets the lack of cooperation shown by the local media to provide on the spot coverage after they had been encouraged to do so.

Program Schedule of 38th Reunion held in Jamestown, N.D., Oct. 10-11-12, 1980. John Remmilong, President of 164th Inf. Assoc., presiding:
Friday, Oct. 10

- Registration-VFW 1:00-9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 11
- Registration-VFW 8:00-5:00 p.m.
- Memorial Service—VFW 9:00-9:30 p.m.
- Business Meeting-VFW 9:30-Noon
- Lunch-VFW Noon
- Ladies Style Show and Luncheon-Holiday Inn 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- Free Time 1:30-6:00 p.m.
- Annual Banquet-Civic Center 6:00-8:30 p.m.
- Dance-Civic Center 8:30-1:00
- Sunday, Oct. 12
- Breakfast-VFW 8:00-Noon

In summary, I as chairman, wish to express my gratitude to our President John Remmilong and his wife Zelma, Jim and Loretta Aipersbach, Bill and Muriel Johnson, Bob and Sully Havelick, Louis and Kathleen Hanson, Roger and Betty Smith, my daughter Norma, and last but not least, my wife Lorraine. They all helped to put it together.

Don Hoffman
Chairman, 164th Inf.
Assoc.
38th Reunion

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP and/or ANNUAL RENEWAL
164th INFANTRY ASSOCIATION of the UNITED STATES**

Name _____

Unit Served With and Dates _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code No. _____

**DUES FOR 1980 — \$5.00, includes subscription to 164th News,
Send to: Ervin M. Sande, Box 1111, Bismarck, North Dakota 58502**

FROM MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

As members of the planning committee of the 38th Reunion of the 164th Inf. Assoc. we wish to express our gratitude to President John Remmilong for his fine leadership and to Chm. Don Hoffman for his outstanding effort. He put in a great amount of time and work to ensure a smoothly organized reunion. Don ran the show like a good first sergeant and we needed that. Thanks, John and Don.

Letters ...

Sept. 16, 1980

Dear Ervin,

Guess it's time to pay my dues. I have been going to do it, but it seems like I just forgot. I would like to know if anyone knows a guy by the name of Eric M. Hammel. I received a letter from him from San Francisco. He says he is writing a history of the Guadalcanal veterans. I don't know why he singled me out for information. How is the 164th history coming along?

Best Regards,
Everett A. Ford
St. Paul, MN

July 19, 1980

Hi Guys!

It looks like you guys have everything lined up and going smoothly in the good old Co. H tradition.

Ardis and I realize and appreciate the many hours you people are putting into this and I know it'll be a great success!

We're looking forward to coming "home" again and seeing all of you!

Our thanks and
appreciation,
Ardis and Lynn "Matt"
Mathews

9/18/80

Reunion Committee:

I am going to try and be in Jamestown for the 1980 Convention. I was born in Carrington and joined the Guard in 1916. Went to the Mexican Border through WWI and WWII. Not many of my age left, but I'm going to try and attend this one.

Yours,
Frank L. Putnam
402 Fontaine St.
Alexandria, VA 22302

Please Note:

We have come by information that will no doubt be of interest to many of you.

WHAT: 1981 joint east and west coast reunion of the 1st Marine Division Association

WHEN: August 13-16, 1981.

WHERE: Radisson Muehlebach Hotel, Baltimore at 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105, Phone: (816) 471-1400

WHO: Members, attached units, or armed forces serving with the First Marine Division during World Wars I or II, Korea, and Vietnam.

WHY: To re-establish the camaraderie, friendships, corps spirit, and general well being of all loyal Marine corps personnel.

"Notes from the office of the Secretary"

A reprint has been made of "Under the Southern Cross" the WWII history of the Americal Division. This book is a factual account of not only the Americal Divisions part in the Pacific Campaign, but tells of other outfits who, side by side, got together to win. Anyone wanting a rare copy of this book, contact:

Paul J. Jacobs
60 Rock Island Rd.
Quincy, MA. 02169

Enclose check \$8.95 (postage paid) made out to Americal Div. Vets Ass'n.

Notice:

Veterans Tours International
P.O. Box 633
Brunswick, ME 04011
Area Code 207-729-0111

The Guadalcanal Campaign veterans offer a "Sentimental Journey/Islands Revisited." A typical program starting Thursday, 23 July 1981, through August, 1981, may be obtained by contacting the above address or some info may be obtained by contacting:

Mr. Alvin Tollefsrud
114 6th Ave. SE
Mayville, ND 58257

164TH TICKET WINNERS 1980 REUNION

ALVIN TOLLEFSRUD
MAYVILLE, ND 58257

THIMOTHY J. SULLIVAN
ST. PAUL, MN 55105

LOUIE YEARKE
GRAND FORKS, ND 58201

The Last Roll Call

It has been reported that the following named members of the 164th Infantry have answered the LAST ROLL CALL since our last issue:

Meredith Olson	.....22 June 1979	..... Big Lake, MN
Gilbert Olerud, Jr.	.....5 May 1980	..... Smyrna, TN
Melvin A. Pursley	.....27 June 1980	..... Benkelman, NB
Harry H. Binek	.....22 July 1980	..... Downes Grove, IL
Thomas Whelan	.....1980	..... St. Thomas, ND
Allen Overby (G Co.)	.....22 Sept. 1980	..... Yuma, AZ
Patric J. Cox	.....6 Dec. 1980	..... Bismarck

The 164th Infantry News

Box 1111
BISMARCK, N.D. 58502

ALVIN TOLLEFSRUD

MAYVILLE, NDAK 58257