



3-1981

## 164th Infantry News: March 1981

164th Infantry Association

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# The 164<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY News

Vol. 11 Number 1

1981 is our 36 Ass'n Yr.

March, 1981

## Dear Friends of the 164th Infantry,

Members of the 164th Infantry Association in the Minot area have begun plans for the 1981 reunion which will be held October 16-17-18, 1981, in Minot. Tentative plans are to have the registration table set up at the American Legion Club and the Friday night gathering there. Our Saturday night banquet will be held at the Riverside Supper Club and the ladies' Saturday luncheon will be held at the Holiday Inn. The same good orchestra that played for us at our 1972 reunion will again furnish music for the Saturday night dance. Other details will be furnished in the next issue of the 164 News. Because there will be other activities in Minot the same weekend, we have reserved as many rooms as possible at several motels so we urge that you make plans early and send in your reservations prior to October 1st in order to get a room.

The following people have accepted appointments as chairmen of committees: George Christensen, chairman, Carl Garbe, co-chairman, Leonard Kretschmar, treasurer, Doug McMahon, registration, Henry Wiik — Housing, and Jon Kerian — raffle.

We urge you to talk up the convention with your friends in your home

## Reunion Committee Meets In Minot

Yours truly and wife, Tillie, attended a meeting on March 19, 1981 in Minot, ND, with President Ervin A. Ventsch, Dr. George Christensen and their very capable staff consisting of: Eberhardt Schempp, Emil Schock, Lesta Rhoads, Melvin Kjera, Carl W. Garbe, Arthur Anderson, Henry M. Wiik, Joseph Moe, Douglas McMahon, Leonard Kretschmar (who were in attendance for the purpose of firming up the basic plans for the annual reunion scheduled for 16, 17 & 18 Oct. 1981 at Minot, ND.

Subjects covered ranged from registration, noon luncheon, general business meeting time frame, banquet, dance and Sunday morning brunch plus many variables. Second meeting scheduled to be held 23 April 81 in Minot, ND.

— Editor

communities and ask people to come. Every year someone comes that we have not seen for many years and that makes it worthwhile. If you know of anyone who is eligible for membership and has not paid their 1981 dues, encourage them to do so, and don't forget the many veterans of the Korean conflict who are also eligible to be members. We look forward to entertaining you at a fun convention.

George M. Christensen

## Comments From Your President

It is with deep regret that we have to report the passing of our Secretary and Treasurer, Ervin Sande. He succumbed to a massive heart attack 10 Feb. 1981. Ervin will be missed by his many friends and his family. We were fortunate to have him in our Association. In talking with Keith Parsons, I was informed that Mrs. Ervin Sande would carry out the duties of Secretary-Treasurer until an election can be held at our reunion in Minot.

We have had several meetings in Minot relative to the reunion in October. Elsewhere in this issue, Dr. George Christensen will report on the plans, dates and committee appointments.

I had the pleasure of visiting with Dennis Ferk in Santa Fe, New Mexico during the Christmas Season. He would like to see the reunion time changed to a summer month. I told him that Joe Juen had presented such a resolution in Williston which was defeated. I do know that our attendance at our annual reunion could possibly be improved. Possibly this action would encourage more people to attend. If anyone would care to draw up a resolution, do so and send it to Dorothy Sande, Box 1111, Bismarck, ND 58502 and she will forward it to the Resolution Committee.

One more thought about membership — I believe our by-laws state that one man from each company should be designated to contact all the potential members and get their participation. I think every Association member should take this responsibility. Invite someone

you know that is eligible but has never joined or a renewal. I personally know of two in our immediate area who have never taken in a reunion.

Looking forward to a great reunion.

Sincerely,  
Erwin Ventsch  
New Town, N. Dak.

## Notice! Notice!

SUBJECT: 36th Annual Reunion

PLACE: Vets Club

TIME: 6 p.m.-June 27th

Dear Comrad:

Saturday, June 27th, 1981 is the date set for our Annual "I" Company Reunion. We are very anxious that as many of you as possible attend. Important business will be discussed.

We are planning something different for our 36th Reunion. It was 40 years since we went to Federal Service (Feb. 10th, 1941). How many of the old timers can still get into their uniforms? It would be nice if we could fit into them again for our 36th Reunion.

Fill out the return notes on page five of this newsletter and mail to us so we know how many will be attending. If you know of someone who should be at this Reunion please include his name and address.

If you know of any former Company "I" members that have passed away, please let me (Ira) know. Herb "Buster" Worner passed away in January of 1981, and Tony Plettl passed away in Feb. of 1981.

Bring your wife and a Buddy and his wife. You will like Wahpeton.

We still have a lot of Co. "I" pictures for sale.

Registration will be at the Vets Club.

Something special this year — we are going to try to send a letter to all of the fellows that were in Company "I", Feb. 10th, 1941. Free registration for all in their old uniforms.

We would like to have the wives of any former member of Company "I" that were in Feb. 10th, 1941.

Hoping and trusting that we may see you at the annual "I" Company Reunion.

IRA KEENEY, Sec'y-Treas.  
521 N. 2nd St., Wahpeton,  
N.D. 58075

(Con't on page 5)

## Please Note:

Subject: 1st Marine Division Association Annual Reunion

Time: 13-16 August 1981

Place: Radisson Muehlebach 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 WWI, WWII, Korea, and/or Vietnam.

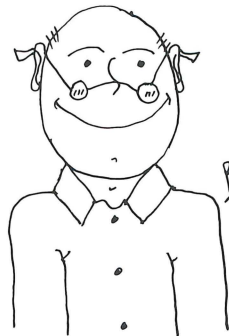
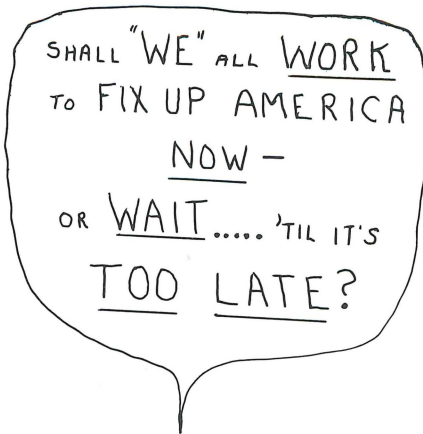
Why: To re-establish the camaraderie, friendship, corps spirit, and general well being of all loyal Marine Corp personnel.

## Notice:

Subject: Co. "D" 164th Inf. Reunion

Time: 26-28 June 1981

Place: Rugby, ND



## Did You Know?

"A Sentimental Journey"

Islands Revisited #830

23 July - 6 August 1981

Sponsored by Veterans Tours International

Special Travel for Special People Schedule:

Thursday, 23 July 1981 — Leave LA Air New Zealand #11, Cross International Date Line, "Lose" a Day.

Saturday, 25 July — Arrive Nandi, Figi at 5:45 a.m., leave Nandi, Figi at 8:10 a.m. — 9:20 a.m. Arrive Tontouta Airport, New Caledonia — Transfer to Hotel Nouvata, balance of day at leisure Time Passes

Saturday, 1 Aug. — Free days

Sunday, 2 Aug. — Free days

to find out all about the "Islands Revisited" if you're interested and want to go on this trip, please contact Veterans Tours International, Box 633, Brunswick, Maine 04011 or call area code (207) 729-0111.

Listed herein is information covering a 20 day trip offered by the Franklin Travel, Inc. Offers Invasion Pacific — a historic tour program to the Pacific to honor the 40th anniversary of World War II. Features Pearl Harbor 1941-1981 and the campaigns which followed, consisting of North Pacific — \$3,192.00 each. Departures: Jan., Feb., March, April, May, Oct., Nov., & Dec., 1981 South Pacific: \$3,390.00 each. Departures: June, July, August, Sept. & Oct.

Those of you who are interested may contact the Franklin Travel, Inc., 344 Suburban Station Bldg., Philadelphia, PN 19103 for complete information.

— Editor

Greetings:

Had a great time at the reunion in Jamestown. Great to see everybody again. Enclosed find 1981 dues and a little extra to be used where ever needed.

W.C. "Bill" Hanson

Co. B



Happiness to an Editor is when one receives a Christmas card that reflects a comradeship such as shown in the faces of those pictured here in — The Place: Thunderbird Motel, Minneapolis. Time: June, 1980. The Group: The Medics 1980 Vintage. They are left to right, front row: Ben Kosinne, Ralph Lepper, Ray Olson, and Lyle Mollet. Middle row: Erwin Drush, Art Ojala, R Dohery, H. Kitt, Dr. Flannery, Dr. Ferguson, Dr. Keith R. Gutnecht, Ben Anderson & E. Mulligan. Back row:

Bob Leonard, Gerald Sanderson, Ken Lystad, L. Simek, Walt Tensen, Art Allen, Ray Sawyer, Ray Horbman, Leo McGuire, and Carlos Klingner.

And I certainly agree with you Ed Mulligan, that as the card reads, "The real Christmas feeling that warm friendly glow, comes from greeting the people, we're happy we know."

A mighty happy year to you, Ed, and thanks for sharing a wonderful experience.

Your Editor,  
Keith P. Parsons

## The 164th Infantry News

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**KEITH P. PARSONS**  
Editor

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## 40 Years Ago North Dakota's 164th Started March Toward Victory

By CARL FLAGSTAD

Forty years ago Feb. 10 young men were readied to pull out of a score of towns and cities across North Dakota.

They were going to war — the worst war, in point of casualties suffered ever in the recorded annals of human history.

They may have guessed it, on that Feb. 10, 1941 when the 164th Infantry Regiment, North Dakota National Guard, was activated into federal service, but they didn't know it. Nobody in America knew it, not until Dec. 7, 10 months later, when bombs fell at Pearl Harbor.

Then America was in what is called World War II, a conflict that raged for nearly five years across the face of the earth, took perhaps as many as 30 to 40 million lives and ushered in the nuclear age and an uneasy peace.

While the Soviet Union and Britain will, justifiably, dispute the claim because they fought longer and lost much more, America won that war, won it in the air, on the sea, and won it by the slogging footsteps of the infantry through the islands of the Pacific, in Italy and from Normandy to Germany.

At a price — at least 406,000 deaths in service. Among them were around 330 of those young men who marched off in February 1941, carrying the battle flags of the 164th Infantry Regiment of North Dakota.

The thing about the 164th is that it was among the first large-scale Army units to get bloodied in that conflict — the first sent into a vital battle in the Pacific. The mission: drive the Japanese off Guadalcanal, 100-by-30-mile piece of dense forested and mountainous land in the Solomon Islands chain.

The date: Oct. 13, 1942.

If you haven't seen Guadalcanal, and precious few North Dakotans probably have except for those who formed the 164th, you may not have missed too much. It isn't the tropical isle of delight, like Tahiti or Hawaii, or Fiji or many others.

But in World War II, as the Japanese pressed onward, sweeping all before them, aiming at Australia, Guadalcanal was almost the last bastion. It had Henderson Field, an important air base from which the forces of the United States could strike back.

The mission for the 164th: Hold Guadalcanal, hold Henderson. The infantrymen were expendable, as were the Marines who had been there first. Time

was what the 164th and those Marines were buying. They were buying time with their lives.

One bought it early, on that very first day the 164th men stormed ashore into the waiting hell that greeted them. His name was Kenneth Foubert, a native of Westhope, who at the age of 17 had enlisted in the National Guard in 1939.

He was 21 when he died on the shattered beaches of Guadalcanal, victim of shrapnel from bombs dropped by Japanese planes.

There is an old infantry song about Rodger Young, which ends with the haunting words, "to the everlasting glory of the infantry shines the name, shine the name of Rodger Young." It is a tribute to a man who gave his own life by falling on a live grenade, saving his companions.

No songs were written about Corporal Foubert of Westhope and the 164th but it may be he was the very first Army man to die in battle in the Pacific theater of operations.

They remember, these men of the 164th, and they remember well, the bitter time on Guadalcanal, the days and nights of terror and uncertainty and the feeling they knew they were expendable — buying time until the might of America could assemble.

Paying that bitter price, the North Dakotans, with the Marines by their side, held and won. Then they marched up through the Pacific, to other islands, to Bougainville and, eventually, near war's end, on the Philippines.

But that was three years away. For the 164th, after the Oct. 13 1942, landing, there were to be weeks and months of holding and pushing forward through Guadalcanal.

As they do every year, survivors of the 164th will gather for a reunion, this time in Minot, Oct. 16-17-18, with headquarters at the American Legion Club. Basically, it is the 164th Infantry Association which stages the reunion, of which Erwin Ventsch of New Town is current president.

Dr. George Christensen is serving as reunion chairman and Christensen is a man who remembers it all too well.

He enlisted in the 164th at Williston, where he was living as a young man and left from there. Other units pulled out of Fargo, Devils Lake, Lisbon, Bottineau, Bismarck, Cavalier, Grafton, Rugby, Jamestown, Cando, Carrington, Edgeley, Wahpeton, Dickinson, Hillsboro and Grand Forks.

Minot did have a 164th unit but before the call-up to federal service it was switched to the 188th Field Artillery Battalion. The battalion left only two months later and was to get its own taste of war at its worst, in the battlefields of Europe. It was also to come home victorious but with its ranks decimated.

"We lived in the armory at Williston for about two weeks," Dr. Christensen recalled, after activation on Feb. 10, 1941, then the troop trains rolled south to Camp Claiborne in Louisiana. After that it was New Caledonia in the Pacific where the 164th was honed and sharpened for the years ahead.

It also was on New Caledonia where the Americal Division was born, composed of the North Dakotans and regiments from Illinois and Massachusetts. It was simply an abbreviation — America and Caledonia, and it went through the war that way.

There are many veterans of the 164th living in North Dakota, perhaps as many as 350 may be at the reunion and, if they will talk, can tell stories of a chilling war of yesteryear; of Japanese bayonet attacks, of artillery bombardments, of bombs from the skies and, always, always, the foot-slogging forward of the expendable infantrymen.

There was six months and two days of that on Guadalcanal alone. Then other places, other battles until a war was won three years later.

There is no 164th in North Dakota anymore. It was disbanded in 1955 and the Guard became an engineering organization. That it was in 1941 regarded one of the best in the nation was evident in that selection for the Guadalcanal attack. It remains the best, both in percentage of enlistments and in effectiveness.

And the Army? It still has an infantry, changed a bit, perhaps, more mechanized, much more lethal weapons. But still an infantry, the "dog soldiers," the ones who live in blood and mud and pay with their lives for every inch of ground gained.

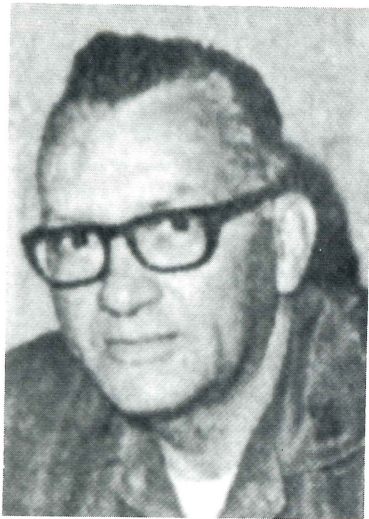
The 164th of North Dakota did that first in the Pacific War. Some came back, some will remember it all again when they meet in Minot. But 330 didn't, including Corporal Foubert, for whom there are no songs or monuments.

*From the Minot Daily News, dated January 31, 1981.*

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is check for 1981 dues and a little extra. Best wishes for the coming year and a successful reunion this fall.

George Huffman



Colonel Ervin M. Sande, 59, 828 West Central Avenue, Bismarck, North Dakota, passed away Tuesday, February 10, 1981, at a Bismarck hospital.

He was born October 5, 1921, in Williston, North Dakota, the son of Knute and Grace Lundsford Sande. He graduated from Williston High School in 1939, where he was an outstanding athlete in football, basketball, and baseball.

Ervin enlisted in the North Dakota National Guard in 1939 and served two years before being called to active duty February 10, 1941. He served with the 164th Infantry, 34th Division, and the famed Americal Division in the Southwest Pacific. While on active duty during this period he received many awards, including the Bronze Star, the Nation's sixth highest award, and the Combat Infantry Badge. He received his Bronze Star for military action on Guadalcanal, October 24, 1942.

He was discharged on July 20, 1945, and re-enlisted in the North Dakota National Guard on May 1, 1949. He was recalled to active duty in 1951 during

the Korean Conflict and again in 1961 during the Berlin Crisis. He retired at the rank of Colonel, August 29, 1978.

Ervin married Dorothy Jean Jeffrey on January 2, 1947, in Williston, North Dakota. After graduation from Wahpeton State School of Science in 1948, they resided in Williston, where he was employed by the Coca-Cola Bottling Company. They moved to Minot, North Dakota in 1956 where he took a full time position with the National Guard. They moved to Bismarck in 1965 where he served until his retirement. He has since been employed with Missouri Valley Motors of Bismarck.

Ervin is survived by his wife, Dorothy, two sons, Jim and David, both of Bismarck; two daughters, Susan, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Mrs. Michael (Peggy) Thurlby, Bismarck; three grandchildren; his mother, Mrs. Grace Sande, Williston; three sisters, Mrs. Jack (Margaret) Keller, Great Falls, Montana, Mrs. Harold (Lola) Hoehn, and Lois Misemer, both of Williston, and one brother, Norman, Williston, North Dakota.

**CASKETBEARERS:** Bernie Wagner, Robert Jeffrey, Art Olson, Allen Larson, Sheldon Cornell, and Harold Hoehn

**HONORARY CASKET-BEARERS:** All former members of Company E., 164th Infantry.

Dear Erv:

Enclosed is check in the amount of \$55.00 to cover the cost of a life membership of \$50.00 and request two each 164th patches. I think I paid two dollars apiece at the Jamestown reunion, the extra buck is for postage.

Thank You,  
Earl H. Johnson

## “Attention” “And Please Note”

All widows of deceased 164th members, the subject has come up at different times that of women belonging to the 164th Infantry Association. The answer is “Yes You Can Belong” and are welcome. According to minutes of a meeting — ie reunion held in Dickinson, ND 1969 — authorization was granted to all widows who desire to continue this affiliation in the Association may do so. We hope many of you do. Dues are \$5.00 annually.

## Notice: Senate Bill No. 2207 Passed

We are happy to inform all of you of the 164th Inf. Assoc. that Senate Bill #2207 passed. This is a bill for an act to direct the Adjutant General (State of North Dakota) to compile, publish and distribute a history of the North Dakota Army National Guard and the 164th Infantry Regiment and to provide an appropriation. Senate Bill #2207 was passed by the 47th Legislative Assembly of North Dakota, 1981. The bill was introduced by SENATOR MEL-LAND, SENATOR NETHING and REPRESENTATIVE MARTINSON.

Senate Bill #2207 directs that the Adjutant General shall compile, publish, and distribute a history of the North Dakota Army National Guard and the 164th Infantry Regiment from its origin as the Dakota Territorial Infantry until the regiment was dissolved in 1955 and its involvement in each war and conflict during its existence. Distribution of the published history shall be in accordance with rules promulgated by the Adjutant General pursuant to Chapter 28-32. An ample appropriation has been allocated to accomplish this. Thanks to the 47th Legislative Assembly.

## Letters ...

Dear Erv:

Sorry not to be able to get to any of the reunions, illness in the family kept me home.

Respectfully Yours,  
Kembel B. Dahl, Sr.

Sirs:

Here is \$5.00 in memory of Manfred Gullickson to the 164th Inf. Assoc. given by: Johnny and Edith Quff, Barton, ND.

Sent in by Mrs. Manfred Gullickson.  
Thank you so much.

## 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:

F.L. Reardon	.....1980	.....McLean, VA.
Casper Johnson	.....1980	.....Lake George, MN
Manfred Gullickson	.....20 May 1980	..... Rugby, ND
Joseph J. Deibele	.....July 1980	..... Sleepy Eye, MN
Carl E. Anderson, Col. Ret.	.....25 Nov. 1980	..... Santa Barbra, CA
Carrol C. Coolidge	.....20 Dec. 1980	..... Upper Jay, NY
Earl Saunders	.....22 Dec. 1980	..... Buhl, IO
Irene E. Sanderson, Associate Member	.....Jan. 1981	..... Seattle, WA
Ervin M. Sande, Col. Ret.	.....10 Feb. 1981	..... Bismarck, ND
D.H. Toy	.....24 March 1981	..... Phoenix, AZ

436.5661  
4740

## GREEN HELL

The filth and hell of Guadalcanal  
the blood, the slime and slaughter.  
I'd give my soul to be out of this hole,  
and, OH! GOD! for a drink of water.

The days are hot, the nites are damp  
in this bloody place called HELL,  
Yes, I'd give my soul again tonite to be out of Guadalcanal.

All day long the ack-acks bark,  
as the nips fly overhead.  
It's hit the dirt, you dog-faced son,  
or you'll sure as hell be dead.

They're over us now; here they come.  
You can hear them pull the lever,  
and me in my hole, a poor warped soul  
half mad from a tropical fever.

But it's carry on 'till the job is done  
we'll do it up right, you know.  
Then we'll see who spends that last nite  
in hell — ME or that JAP TOJO.

By 1st Lieutenant Archie P. Dougan  
164th Infantry U.S. Army

## Letters . . .

Feb. 3, 1981

Hi Gang!

My dues and a few extra bucks for the Assoc.

Congrats and hats off to Don Hofman and the boys from Jamestown for doing a marvelous job on the '80 reunion.

It was really great to see all the fellows that came in from all over the country.

Best ever,  
Lloyd A. Weber

Feb. 13, 1981

Dear Keith:

Enclosed is check for 1981 dues and extra \$5.00 for the News.

Since I've been unable to attend any of the reunions for some years, the news keeps me posted on activities of the Association and old friends.

Had an enjoyable visit with Ray & Ruth Sawyer during their visit in Tucson recently. Also Ben and Lois Kosanke who were on a winter vacation in Arizona.

Greetings to all.  
Sincerely,  
Marv Gilason  
(Better known as "Geese")

## Notice . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Clip out and return

Dear Ira:

\_\_\_\_\_ I will come to the 36th Annual Reunion June 27th

there will be \_\_\_\_\_ of us  
(how many)

\_\_\_\_\_ Reserve a Motel for (\_\_\_\_\_) how many &

for what nights? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I cannot come this year.

My Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Feb. 2, 1981

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find my check for 1981 dues.

Also enclosing a picture taken by friends of mine who visited the National Memorial Cemetery of Pacific at Honolulu, Hawaii.



Col. Diede was an original member of Co. K, 164th Inf. who was killed in action on Jungle Ridge, west of Matanikau River in Guadalcanal.

Hope you can use this picture in a future issue of the 164th paper.

Sincerely yours,  
Warren B. Hartung

Thanks,  
Your Editor

March 8, 1981

Dear Keith:

Enclosed find dues for the current year plus an additional five to compensate for inflation.

Also, enclosed find a picture of Bill "Red" Livingston and myself at Christmas here in Seattle. It was great to see him again.



Bill "Red" Livingston, left, Mel Heuer, right.

I hope to make it to the reunion in Minot.

Best Regards,  
Mel Heuer  
10455 Des Moines Way S.  
#301  
Seattle, Wash. 98168

# Letters ...

February 14, 1981  
Dear Keith:

Enclosed are my dues for the current year. Charlie Schlieve has informed me that there will be a Co. "L", 164th Infantry reunion in Rugby June 26-28. I hope I can attend this. While looking through my old foot locker I found some Co. D photographs. #1 is an airplane view of Mt. Bagana on Bouganville, S.I., this active volcano was in view from the Co. D gun positions on the perimeter. #2 was taken on an inspection day after the company had moved from the perimeter to a rear area to prepare to go to the Phillipines. The view shows Maj. Gossett inspecting Pvt. Repson's pistol, Cpl. Turner is standing beside Repson, that is me standing to the rear of Major Gossett, Lt. Axel Hansen is next with 1st Sgt McMahon slightly visible. #3 shows the 1st platoon of Co. D with me in front and from left to right, front row, Sgt Ed. Avens, Cpl. Holter, Pvt. Bolen and Pvt. Harrison; in the second row I can recognize Sgt. Claude Avens, Sgt. Fox, and Sgt. McMahon standing in the rear. #4 is me, Sgt. McManhon, Lt. Christie, and Lt. Griffin standing, all of Co. D.



I thought you may like to use these in an issue of the News since the Co D reunion is to be held soon. Please return them to me after use. I remember all of the men shown in the photographs but some of the names have slipped my



mind after all these year since 1943-44-45 on Bouganville.

Sincerely,  
Max D. Conyers  
524 Wanstead Way  
Lexington, Kentucky 40505  
(— Thanks, Editor).

25 Jan. 81  
164th Inf. Assoc.

Enclosed please find check in the amount of \$10.00 for 1 year dues and a little extra to the News.

Sincerely,  
Jack C. Crull  
2121 - 53 Street  
Lubbock, Tx 79412

WE TRY TO BUY—  
"AMERICAN-MADE MERCHANDISE"  
BECAUSE  
LATER, WE MAY WANT TO  
COMPLAIN ABOUT IT  
AND  
IT'S A LONG WAY FROM  
HERE  
TO EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA  
AND SOUTH AMERICA  
—AND WE FEEL.....  
THAT IS A GOOD REASON!



23, ABOUT  
1/13/81  
OBERLIN, I.A.

Edited for the 164th News:

It seems fitting that it be mentioned here in tribute to a man who in his endeavors accomplished many of the goals he set for himself. We are referring to Mr. D.H. Toy, a former member of the 164th Infantry serving in France, 1917 to 1919, and was a current member of the 164th Infantry Association. According to the recorded obituaries column of the Arizona Republic dated 26 March 1981. Mr. D.H. Toy, 87, passed away 24 March 1981.

He was founding president of Toy Enterprises in 1950 at the location where he started his store in 1927 and later, Toy's Shangrila Restaurant. He came to territorial Arizona in 1909 from his native Canton China. He worked as a cook and waiter prior to his serving in the 164th Infantry during World War I in France.

After the war he returned to China to claim his wife, Lee Chee, and bring her to Phoenix. He opened and operated Toy's Restaurant and later operated a restaurant in the Arizona Hotel. His dedications were exemplar as are many who served with the 164th Infantry at varied times throughout history. A great thanks to you, D.H. Toy, and thank you, Bill, for your interest in informing us. Reference, see letter below from Mr. William K. Toy. LTC USA Ret.

Editor's Note:

I hope to have recalled a few memories of some of you old timers in recalling Mr. Toy's accomplishments to you.

March 25, 1981

The Secretary:

Please inform the Commander and members of the Association that your Comrade, Mr. D.H. Toy your oldest World War Veteran passed away on Tuesday March 24, 1981.

Mr. Toy was very proud of his membership in this fine organization. His proudest moments was at the annual convention held in North Dakota about ten years ago when he was honored by the host Post.

Mr. Toy will be buried with Military honors at Phoenix, Arizona on March 27, 1981.

Sincerely yours,  
William K. Toy  
Lt. Col. USA (ret)  
2222 E. Pasadena Ave.  
Phoenix, Arizona 85016

1 Jan. 1981

Hi:

Extend me for couple of years.  
Roger Nauman

(Thanks Roger for the \$5.00. It's good for one year's dues.)

## Letters ...



9 Jan. 1981

In driving to Florida for a vacation, I stayed in Chat., Tenn. and called Carl Hubbuch, former K Co. Commander. We had lunch and visited for a time. He didn't know about the 164th Inf. Assoc. and was very pleased to become a member. So please find enclosed \$5.00 for his 1981 dues. He expressed a desire to have Bill Tillotson and Wm. Mogdalen write him. Enclosed is a picture of Carl. Hope you can print this note and picture in the march 81 or future News papers. His address is: Carl F. Hubbuch, 1000 Hanover St., Chattanooga, TN 37405 or Hubbuch Glass Co., 1855 Central Ave., Chattanooga, TN 37402.

And "Hello" to all.  
Russ Landgreen  
1481 Schletti  
St. Paul, MN 55117



**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: Secretary 164th Infantry, Box 1111, Bismarck, North Dakota 58502**

Dear Fellow Members:

I'm certainly happy that you billed me for the 1981 dues as I thought maybe you had forgotten me for 1981.

We are really having a wonderful winter, so far no snow, which we generally do have in January or February. However it does not last very long. If the sun comes out it is gone by eleven or twelve in the morning.

Had a little trouble with our garden that we planted last fall as when the nice little shoots came up either the birds or the rabbits cleaned them off. However I guess you can't win them all as the rabbit was a friend of our little English poodle. Hell was, she is a present that I gave the wife so I've kept my mouth shut and didn't use any of the mule skinner language that I still am capable of using.

I am so happy that you are having such excellent attendance at your reunions. I hope that the wife and I will be able to attend the 100th yr. event at Hillsboro, which will take place in June. I also hope that I can attend the dedication of our Masonic auditorium at the Peace Gardens in North Dakota which will also be held in June. Our donation went to the project in memory of the 164th Infantry that were killed on Guadalcanal.

Here's my dues for 1981 with a little extra for your postage or what you might need in order to keep up the tradition.

Sincerely,  
Samuel Baglien

Dear Erv:

Enclosed are my dues for the 164th Inf. I enlisted with Co. D at Rugby, ND on Oct. 24, 1940 and am a former member of the 164th Assoc.

Thank you kindly,  
Clayton A. Brown  
Rt. #1, Box 87  
Coeur D'Alene, Idaho  
83814

Feb. 5, 1981

Dear Sir:

I have been informed that you are the "Wheel" in charge of the 164th Inf. Assoc. I have been out of contact with anyone of my old friends from the flat land since 1953.

I joined Co. H, 164th Inf. in Jamestown, ND in May of 1939. I attended Camp Grafton, ND in 1939 and Camp Ripley, Minn. in 1940. I was mobilized with Co. H on Feb 10, 1941. I went to Camp Clayborne, La. and when the war broke out I came to the Wet Coast. Cow Palace in San Francisco. Beach duty with machine gun in Oregon. Tunnel guard in Oregon. Aircraft guard in Wash. Etc. I was separated from the army in Nov., 1945 and also received a discharge at that time from the North Dakota National Guard.

If you need a copy of my discharge, please let me know. I am just too lazy to get it out of the Safety Deposit Box if I don't need it.

If I am correct in my assumption, you can handle this matter. Please excuse me.

Thank you.  
James Lindegren  
281 West 4th St.  
Coquille, Oregon 97423

(This letter was returned. If any of you know Perry, please inform him of this — thanks! Editor.)

15 Dec. 1980  
Mr. Perry McKechnie  
Dear Perry:

In reference to your request about a copy of the book "Under the Southern Cross", the history of the Americal Division. It may be purchased by placing your order to Paul J. Jacobs, 60 Rock Island Road, Quincy, MA 02169. Cost is \$8.95 (Postage paid). Make out to "Americal Division Vets Association".

Also if you're eligible to belong to 164th Inf. Assoc., please find an application enclosed (self explanatory).

Respectfully,  
Keith P. Parsons  
Editor, 164th Inf. Assoc.  
Paper .

Dear Sir:

Would appreciate it if you would use address below. The people at the old address threw the paper away and Vern Titsworth has been good enough to save his for me.

Chester H. Torgenson  
124 N. 22nd Street  
P.O. Box 775  
Billings, MT 59103

(O.K. Chester. Here's the one we have on record for you — thanks, Editor.)



## Letters ...

Somewheres in the spring of 1945 the Third Battalion of the 164th Infantry held a beachhead perimeter around a small village on the northwest coast of Leyte Island while the 1st and 2nd Battalions drove the Japanese overland towards us.

Early one morning supplies and mail arrived by landing craft boats. Among my letters was one from the girlfriend. As she was very anxious about my safety and well being, she included a bouquet of prayers for my safety. It was timely because even as I read the letter Japanese bullets were popping in the tree tops directly over our Aid Station, which was forty yards behind L. Co's perimeter defense line.

About an hour later an L Co. platoon officer hollered for us to pick up a wounded man. I asked three of our younger and newer replacements to help with an "easy" one.

When we reached the officer I asked, "Which of your men was hurt?" His answer was, "He isn't here as he was on patrol." And pointing to a very lonely soldier two hundred yards in front of the lines in an open area, "That's him!" Our "easy" one was an impossible situation.

The officer continued before I had a chance to say verbally what I was thinking. He said, "Before making your decision on this rescue, let me explain the situation." While the officer was explaining how close and where the Japanese positions were, I remembered the bouquet of prayers for my safety. Now, the only question was "Is my faith in the prayers of my friends and relatives strong enough to risk my life and the lives of the three other medics out there on that open field?"

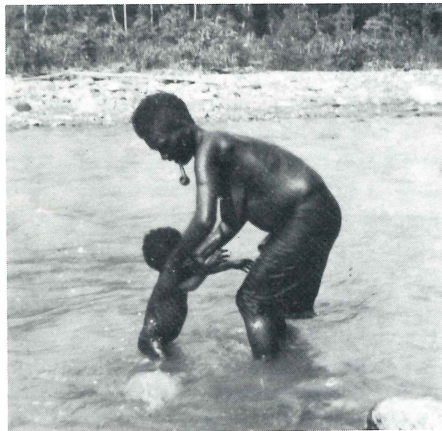
With a simple "we will try" we headed out across the forward slope, by the

water buffalo wallow, and over to the wounded L. Co. soldier. As a stocky litter squad man noticed the leg wound, he offered a shoulder carry so that the other three could spread out for a lesser target. At a given signal four L Com-

Dear Erv:

Enclosed is a picture I took either in Fiji or Guadalcanal. Thought this topless beauty might charge some of our old buddies' batteries. HA!

Enjoy the 164th News very much. No doubt you will know who would know if this picture can be used or not.



Erwin Ventsch and I came home together and spent our R & R at the Arlington Hotel in Hot Springs, Ark. Good to see his handsome puss again.

Thanks,

Roy "Lindy" Lindberg

Dear Wally,

Completely slipped my mind, have been in and out of hospital so much. Will be able to send more to help with expenses soon.

Hi to all and God Bless the greatest unit that ever represented the armed forces in the U.S.A.

Bill Tucker

(Thanks, Bill — your Editor.)

pany machine guns opened fire on the Japanese positions. We hurriedly picked our way back between the firing lanes of those four guns guided only by the sharp crack of the bullets as they went by. Nobody said thank you — that was our job. However one soldier commented to his friend said, "I hope that kid realized how lucky he is that those F—— medics got more guts than brains.

I never checked if that L Company man was an "old timer" from North Dakota or a newcomer from somewheres in the U.S.A., nor did I ever mention how that rescue hung so delicately in balance because a girl in Minnesota sent a prayer to a guy in the Philippines exactly when it was needed.

I tell this story now, not to brag I hope, but to show the present need for faith in the prayers of friends and relatives. Three years ago as cancer was taking my wife — the doctors said two weeks, I reminded her how difficult it was for me to place my life on her prayer offerings that day in the Philippines. Now it was her turn to place her faith in the prayers of her family and friends as best she could because soon she would be starting across her field to the Kingdom of God.

Within another fifteen years or so nearly everyone that reads this paper will be faced with a like problem for a loved spouse or for themselves. I hope this story will be a help to those of you who know ahead of time that their time is near at hand.

When the Lord says, "Come to me!" May I add; "May the prayers of your relatives and friends smooth and hasten your joyous flight to the Kingdom of God.

Sincerely,

Edward Mulligan  
3rd Bn. Med. Det.

### NOTICE PLEASE

This is your paper and it needs your support. It needs your stories, letters, and pictures to make it as good and readable as you desire. When sending in stories or photos of news interest, please identify all photos. Black and white glossy prints seem to reproduce best. Color prints may be used to a lesser degree of clarity if they are sharp photos. Photos used will be returned to sender when requested.

Thank you respectfully,

KEITH P. PARSONS  
*Editor*

## The 164th Infantry News

Box 1111  
BISMARCK, N.D. 58502

ALVIN TOLLEFSRUD

MAYVILLE, NDAK 58257