



12-1982

164th Infantry News: December 1982

164th Infantry Association

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The 164th INFANTRY News

Vol. 2 Number 4

1982 is our 37 Ass'n Yr.

December, 1982

How Many Remember?

OCTOBER 13, 1942

164th Infantry, Americal Division

For the past four or five days we had been following behind a couple of small destroyers in what I thought was a mighty small convoy — two transports, two destroyers — to be heading due North towards the Solomon Islands and the Japanese navy and army.

At dawn on the morning of Oct. 13 the two transports and the destroyers were just off shore of the coconut palm lined Lunga Beach of Guadalcanal. On board the 2nd Bn. Medics group of the 164th Inf., of which I was a member, was at its debarking station on the top deck of the transport, The USS McCauley. Sgt. Carroll looked over the railing to which the cargo or landing nets were fastened too, took a deep breath and told his men to take it one step at a time. We were not to look down until we had counted twenty five steps as the landing craft was bobbing on the waves at least thirty feet below the top of the railing. Four men stepped to the railing at a time, climbed over and started down the swaying and swinging rope ladder des-

pite never having seen it done. As soon as the first four heads disappeared from view four more repeated the process. Very surprisingly, it was done without mishap—nobody fell, nobody dropped a rifle, a helmet, or other equipment.

All hands were kept busy transferring supplies from the two transports to the beach as rapidly as possible as the boats could not stay in the area over night. Shortly after twelve noon the first warning for an air raid was sounded. As the ships sped to open water for maneuverability, I looked around just behind the sand beach area for an already dug foxhole. Having found one I sat on its edge surveying the surroundings: the stately coconut palms all in rows, the piles and piles of supplies on the beach, the occasional chatter of machine guns to the west, and the seemingly lack of concern by all the people in the area, left me feeling very, very foolish sitting in a foxhole.

The high pitched drone of many airplanes lifted my gaze skyward to see coming in directly overhead were
(Continued on page 2)

Luncheon, 164th Infantry Association 1982 Reunion at St. Paul Radisson Hotel, October 16, 1982 held in the Garde Court with 128 present. Registration for 44 door prizes (3 different drawings) included beautiful floral decorations. States represented besides Minnesota and North Dakota were three from Arizona, four from California, two from New York, two from New Jersey, two from Washington, two from South Dakota, one each from Georgia, Iowa, Kentucky, Ohio, Montana, Tennessee, Virginia and Wisconsin. There were 20 other ladies present who were not pre-registered so am not able to state where they were from. Mary Kay Representative, Naneen Honsval and her Mr. Kay (superior) Carol Williams of Glenwood, IA offered free facials in rooms near the pool. They offered a prize of a fragrance, of the winners choice, which created a lot of interest. Shirley Kartarich of White Bear Lake, MN presented approximately 40 minutes of "Unique Musical Entertainment" and of course this was well accepted by those present.

The Men's Luncheon was held in the Wabasha North Room from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM October 16, 1982. Wabasha Hall was where the banquet and cocktails were served from 5:45 PM to 6:45 PM. The Memorial Service and dinner were served at 6:45 P.M. Scintillating rhythms were presented after dinner by the Johnny Owen's eleven piece band wherein they played music of the 30's, 40's era and presented some very fine dancing music, as was portrayed by those who participated.

A Continental Breakfast was provided in the Garden Court from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM on Sunday, October 17, which brought to close the 1982 Reunion of our 164th Infantry Association at the St. Paul Radisson Hotel. Hope to see you all in Bismarck, North Dakota for the 1983 reunion. Note reunion pictures.

Winners of the 164th drawing were:

Maurice L. Hannum — Powell, New York

L.M. Bechtel — Alexandria, Minnesota

Russ Landgren — St. Paul, Minnesota

Reflections On Reunion

A few reflections on the 1982 164th Infantry Association Reunion which is history and I'm certain everyone who attended had a gala time. President, Donald K. Van Slyke and his very capable staff did present the members a very fine reunion and congratulations are in store, along with a hearty thank you to the fellows and ladies who worked so diligently to ensure that all parts of the reunion were complete.

In all it has to be termed as one of the best in every way, from the basic planning headed up by Banquet Chairman, Ray Sawyers, and Tim Sullivan and Joe Quen as Co-Chairmen, and all who ramroded it into one fine reunion. The facilities were provided by the Radisson St. Paul Hotel and, of course, a resounding thank you belongs to our past president, Mr. Don K. Van Slyke.

I think it is only fitting that a big thank you be given to those who worked so diligently to ensure the 1982 reunion

at St. Paul, MN be a resounding success. That goes without saying with presiding President, Donald K. Van Slyke, Master of Ceremonies, Bob Lurtsema, the Posting of the Colors by the Anderson-Nelson Post 1635 VFW, St. Paul, MN, the Invocation by the Rev. Edward F. Lutz, Bethel Lutheran Church, St. Paul, MN, the Memorial Prayers, the Dinner Prayer, the introductions and recognitions and the General Speaker. Note that the regular scheduled speaker, Brig. General Frank Richards, felt he couldn't make it due to an illness in the family, so the featured speaker was Bob Lurtsema, former defensive end of the Minnesota Vikings, and I must say that Bob was in true form judging from the line of ladies and inspiring talk and a big thanks to Mr. John Eishbach, Melvin Rivkin, Ray Sawyer and all the ladies whose tireless efforts went into the gala event.

Here's a short account of the Ladies

(Continued from page 1)

twenty-two light blue bombers in perfect formation — a very pretty sight. How I wished I had a yellow cloud filter for my camera. The anti-aircraft fire from the ships could not reach the bombers. As the planes were directly over the beach a new sound was heard. It started as a whistle and progressed to a shrill scream as the bombs descended towards us. The first bomb hit less than ½ block away and the rest went racing towards the air strip. The 164th Inf. received its first casualties. The anti-aircraft batteries directly behind the beach added their sound effects also. Right there I recognized the importance of sound for survival — knowing immediately the difference of what was coming and what was going. The raid was over quickly as the planes dropped all their bombs on the first pass. Each Japanese plane usually carried six bombs. The ships returned and work continued at a rapid pace.

At 2:30 P.M. a second air raid came with only fifteen planes. This group were not pretty, but very frightening. I had company in that foxhole this time. In fact I had to run pretty darn fast to get there first. This time the bombs hit closer to the airstrip and not on the each. However, there was hardly a half miles distance between the beach and the airstrip.

Just as the sun was setting, the transports had left, a group of men were talking on the beach when an explosion sent sand flying about 100 yards to the west. Moments later a second explosion occurred only fifty yards away. I hurriedly departed to check my equipment at that friendly foxhole. Pistol Pete, who had arrived only two days earlier, was making his presence known by shelling the beach area after his first two sighting-in shots. The last American destroyer in the bay raced Northwestward to try to silence the Japanese land artillery pieces. After about an hours dual the firing on the beach ended.

It was now dark and the move to a safer (if there was such a place) area was most urgent. Finally, Second Battalion was organized late in the evening and was able to march off the beach towards the East, and along side of the airstrip. Near mid-night the column was stopped as word was passed of a new danger: Condition Black, prepare for naval shelling. We were instructed to find whatever shelter we could with no lights permitted. Many of the men lay in the ditches on either side of the temporary road we were hiking on. I found two bales of sand bags near a tree. I moved

them so I could lie between them with a coconut tree at the North end. Another medic joined me. In the darkness we did not realize we were barely three hundred feet from the open area of Henderson Field.

First there was a flare from a plane, than star shells cutting diagonally from the northwest. This was followed immediately by tremendous ground shaking explosions as the two Japanese battleships fired in their 14" shells. For the next forty minutes no sound reached our ears above the screaming shells and the thunderous explosions as that eleven ship Japanese armada fired a hundred shells, from 5" to 14", a minute into that tiny two square mile area held by the Marines, Navy and Army comprising the airstrip and the coconut groves between it and the beach. The shells would be exploding in and near our area, than move slowly westward along the airstrip, only to return to our area again as the Japanese gunners raked the entire area forth and back. The near misses would throw coral, dirt, and debris high into the air and sound like rushing winds as it returned to earth. Anything burnable was on fire along the air strip as half of the planes were destroyed that night. After the first ten minutes, I no longer prayed for survival but only that my "time" would be as painless as possible.

And then it was quiet after forty minutes of the wildest fireworks I have ever seen or heard. No, I didn't count the number of shells as I was too busy hanging on to two handfulls of grass (the green and growing kind) in order to keep mind and body together and under control. Capt. Yancy made a quick check of his men but warned us that the period of calm could be like the center of a hurricane.

It took just a few minutes for the Japanese ships to turn about and open fire again. The second forty minutes was a repeat of the first forty. We heard every shell, and flinched for two thirds of them because they were so close. Records after the war showed the two battleships fired 918 fourteen inch shells that night. A fourteen inch diameter shell was about sixty inches long and weighed 2200 pounds. Finally about 2:30 AM the heavy shelling slowed to a few parting shots, plus repeated bombings until dawn by one plane at a time.

As the first light of "Day Two" filtered thru what was stately palm trees destruction and shell holes were everywhere. The closest hit to me was at the base of the next tree, barely twenty feet away. Near misses to other men of the

164th were commonplace and everywhere. One large hospital ward dugout had a twenty foot crater so close to it there was barely two feet of dirt left between them. Slowly the men sat up and got to their feet, amazed that they were still all there physically as well as mentally. Because the Japanese did not use air bursts, casualties were rather light — three dead for the regiment and less than fifty total for the island.

A navy historian in his book labeled this night's shelling as the heaviest and most concentrated naval bombardment any American troops ever received in its 200 year history. This is understandable because the 14" shells alone totaled a thousand tons of explosives. The smaller stuff, thousands of 5" and 8" shells, and the bombs were in addition to that amount.

As a quick check of the sea showed no ships in sight, we decided to stay for "Lay Two". With the sea behind us and the Japanese infantry in front of us, their planes were overhead, that seemed to be the best choice because those

(Continued on page 4)

Letters . . .

Hi Herb:

—Thanks for the reminder we have a good organization and I'm glad to see the dedication of the few to help keep it going. I don't seem to have time to do too many things as I keep busy with volunteer work at the VA Hospital and the American Legion 40 et 8 Toy Shop which I am Chairman of and this is our busy season. We still use the armory to wrap the gifts for the needy kids in the surrounding area. Also campaigning for Legion Department Commander this year so I don't have to worry about my spare time.

Have a happy holiday season.

Howard V. Erickson

810 7th St. N.

Fargo, North Dakota 58102

The 164th Infantry News

OFFICE: 610 Ave B West
Bismarck, ND 58501

Official Publication, 164th Infantry
Association of the United States
Published Quarterly

KEITH P. PARSONS
Editor

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to 164th Inf.
Assn.

Box 1111, Bismarck, ND 58502



(Continued from page 2)

North Dakota farmers were mighty poor swimmers.

The First Battalion moved to the East perimeter line. The second Battalion moved to the Southeast perimeter line of Henderson Field. Thus many of us missed the 750 shells on the night of the 14th and the 1500 shells on the night of the 15th. Third Battalion was in reserve and caught many of these shells.

The infantry battle for Henderson field Oct. 24, 25, & 26; the Koli Point drive Nov. 4-10; and the fighting above the Matanaque River and at Point Cruz Nov. 15 to Dec. 20 kept the 164th Inf. Regiment occupied continuously from the day of landing until Christmas of 1942.

We finally left Guadalcanal on March 1, 1943 not for home but for Suva, Fiji. Christmas at home was going to be a little late, as Bougainville and the Philippine Islands had priority.

Written by:
Ed Mulligan
1032 Rossman Ave.
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501



Possibly some of you may need something to take you back to the 13th of October, 1942. Here's a picture of the ship that brought you to Guadalcanal. This picture was taken at Lunga Beach on October 13, 1942. The USS McCuauley is the one in the center of the picture and the other ship is the USS Feilin. Both are in close to shore for unloading. The second picture is of a Co. E soldier inspecting the barbwire on the line of defense south of Henderson Field on October 20, 1942. Remember Coffin Corner, where the Japanese attacked on October 25, 1942, was the field of trees straight ahead?



Do you know that?

According to the late Col. Herman A. Brocapp — Edited for the paper:

1. The history of the North Dakota National Guard is almost the States Military History up through the Berlin Crisis.

2. No general military history has ever been written for the state of North Dakota, except for the Indian wars, and the North Dakota History, written by Elwyn B. Robinson, in 1966, Military Statistics by Col. H.A. Broeopp.

3. There is no history of the first North Dakota Volunteer Infantry in the Spanish American War, 1898-99, except campaigning in the Philippines (out of print).

4. There were two troops of the 3rd Volunteer Cavalry organized in North Dakota in 1898.

5. The First North Dakota Infantry served on the Mexican border 1916-17.

6. The First North Dakota Infantry became the 164th Infantry during WWI and that there was a Second North Dakota Infantry that was activated and served during WWI.

7. That there is no concise history ever written of the 164th Infantry in WWII (except the historical and pictorial review, National Guard of the state of North Dakota 1940 by Brigadier General John H. Eraine, retired, and Lt. Col. H.A. Broeopp.

8. The 164th Infantry Regiment is covered in part only in the 47th Viking Division during the Korean conflict 1951-52, except rosters of organizations mobilized in 1951.

9. That school history books have no reference to the National Guard; ask any high school student.

10. In general, there is no history kept of the peace time service of the National Guard.

11. There was a Home Guard during WWI.

12. There was a State Guard during WWII.

13. There was a selective service system in WWI.

14. There was a selective service system in WWII.

15. And some ask why write a history?

In looking over old records we find that during the Spanish American War, i.e. the War with Spain and the Phillipines insurrection during the years 1898-1899, the First Dakota Volunteer Infantry served in thirty three (33) engagements as depicted by the 33 silver rings that encircle the old regimental flag staff bearing the names and the dates in which the North Dakota Infan-

try boys took part in. It appears that there are many many interesting facets to this North Dakota National Guard that no doubt will be brought to light in the ongoing history that is being undertaken by the adjutants Generals office by direction of the North Dakota Legislative body.

Editor

Letters . . .

October 22, 1982

Hi Keith:

For all the years I have been getting the 164th paper, this is the first time I have written you.

I wanted you to know, that since I have been on medical disability, and now that you have started writing the excerpts of Caladonia and the Canal, I wait with baited breath for each issue to come.

Keith, I have a project I am working on, and, I need a little help. Can you let me know how I could get ahold of three (3) items.

- (1) Americal Division Patch
- (2) 1st Marine Guadalcanal Patch
- (3) 164th Regimental Lapel Insignia

If I accomplish this project, I will send you a picture of it.

Thanks very much.

Walt Byers

164th Inf. Co. B

My address is:

101 2nd St. S., #1309

Fargo, ND 58103

NOTE: Can anyone help Walt on this project? Editor.

WHAT
AMERICA NEEDS TODAY
 IS A CHANGE
 FROM.....
 PHD'S (PUBLIC HAPHAZARD DECISIONS)
 AND
 MS'S (MIGHTY SOLICITORS)
 TO.....
A LOT MORE
 B.S. (BETTER SENSE)



Letters . . .

May 10, 1982

To: American Division Vets Association and Guadalcanal Campaign Vets

From: Chaplain John Shade Franklin, PO Box 485, East Wareham, MA 02538. Phone 1-617-295-4456 (okay to call during lowest rate hours)

Dear Guadalcanal Comrades:

Our friend, Calvin Iver Nelson, SN 316-85-840SN, after service at Battle of the Coral Sea and from August on with YP-284, was thrown into the sea when his ship was destroyed by Japanese fire between Tulagi and Guadalcanal on October 25, 1942. He continued to serve with the Navy to the end of the war.

Due to crop failures and high interest rates, Calvin is about to lose his farm and equipment for non-payment of mortgage bills. On learning of gifts made by some of the Cape Cod Wm. McGoldrick Chapter of Americal, the Federal Land Bank and Farmers Home Administration have given Calvin more time hopefully to June 15, 1983.

Two NBC TV stations in Calvins area, KSFY at Sioux Falls, SD and KTIV of Sioux City, IA are helping to publicize Calvin's need.

The money will pay for seed, etc., for the summer's crop. Gifts of money in any amount of \$1.00, \$5.00 and up, may be sent to me, to the VFW, Yankton, South Dakota 57078 or direct to Calvin I. Nelson, Box 42, RR #1, Irene, South Dakota 57037. Anyone willing to risk \$100 to \$1,000 may loan those amounts, request a signed note and it will be sent by mail.

Your help will be deeply appreciated and will demonstrate once more the special concern of all of us for those who have made sacrifices in battle for our beloved country.

May God richly bless you and yours.

Faithfully and gratefully,

John Shade Franklin, Chaplain
USA (Ret)

November 15, 1982

Editor
164th Infantry News
Bismarck, ND 58501

Dear Keith:

Since the subject of my attendance at 164th reunions came up at the last reunion in St. Paul, MN, I decided that I best write and give you the correct information.

Starting with the first reunion in 1947 at Jamestown, ND, I have attended all reunions except for three (3) that I have

missed, due to my being stationed overseas with the U.S. Army:

1. 1954 — Stationed in West Germany with the 1st Infantry Division.

2. 1958 — Stationed at Fort Churchill, Canada with the 1st Arctic Test Center

3. 1962 — Stationed at Kontum, South Vietnam with N.A.A.G.

I am not claiming any record, nor am I out to set one. I attend these reunions because of the deep affection of the unit and friendships with members that I have met since 1941. This has continued and grown over the years by my attending reunions and through association with the very fine group of members in the Twin City Chapter of the 164th Infantry.

It is especially gratifying to see and meet the several new members at each reunion, who after some 40 years, they are attending their first reunion, because they recently learned of these reunions.

I hope that as the word goes out, more and more will attend each year.

Well Keith, I'll close for now and will be looking forward to our next reunion in Bismarck.

Sincerely,

Peter H. Grant

November 2, 1982

Keith Parsons, Editor
164th Infantry News

Quote: "Our membership is dwindling."

This simple statement was embodied in the report by the secretary at the recent 40th Anniversary St. Paul Reunion of the 164th landing on Guadalcanal, October 13, 1942, a long long time ago.

Normal attrition, so what, some may say. I recognize the inevitability of attrition and the effect it is having on our organization. However, I do not feel we have to stand by idly and let "normal" attrition have its way altogether; at least for the present time.

Think of it this way. Our 164th Infantry Association is an exclusive extra special organization. It is an honor and a privilege to belong. It is not like ordinary fraternal organizations whose membership possibilities are perpetuated by the birth rate.

Our organization membership is limited to very special men who served with the 164th Infantry Regiment. There are many members of the Regiment who are qualified to belong but are not presently members and there are former members who have dropped by the wayside.

At our business meeting at the St.

Paul Reunion, I proposed that present members buy a one year membership for some qualified potential member or former member. I feel that receipt of the 164th Infantry News could conceivably convert some of them to continuous membership.

Discussions followed and there were a number of excellent suggestions made as to ways to increase membership. I would like to see those suggestions developed. It was gratifying to learn that some action had already been taken and quite a number of new members were introduced at the meeting. In addition, the June issue of the 164th Infantry News listed 11 new members.

To get to the point, I feel the least I can do is to follow my own proposal. I am enclosing my check for \$15.00 to be applied as follows: renewal of my membership for another year; two additional memberships for the following.

Hugh I. Masseur,

RR 2

Fargo, North Dakota 58102

Paul A. Holvik

800 2nd Ave. N, #1408

Moorhead, Minnesota 56560

If either or both of these men are presently members please advise me and I will send substitute names.

Keith, the 164th Infantry News is "Tops". Keep up the good work.

Doug B. Campbell

Box 51

Mayville, North Dakota 58257

November 13, 1982

Edited for the paper

(Addressed to the Capitol of North Dakota, Bismarck, North Dakota)

Dear Parson

Re: 164th Infantry WWII
North Dakota

As a soldier in the 164th Infantry WWII, I am now interested in contacting any representative of the remaining organization, group archives regarding this crack outfit.

I am especially interested in communicating with the brother or sisters of Melvin Farring (sp?) who died in Guadalcanal.

Please forward this request to proper group or individual.

Signed,

Dan A. Sullivan

2117 North Mantle Lane

Santa Ana, CA 92701

Editors Note: His phone number is (714) 543-2341. Does anyone remember him, and can you help him out?

164th INFANTRY REUNION TOUR In The Fijis - 1983

APPLICATION FORM

164th Infantry Reunion Tour In the Fijis — 1983

A 14-day tour of the Fijis, March 4-18, 1983. Escorted by Charles and Hettie Walker. Arrangement by: Brekke Travel, Inc., 802 North 43rd Street, Grand Forks, ND 58201.

Phone (701) 775-5561 — local

1-800-732-4300 — toll free in ND

1-800-437-5301 — toll free continental U.S.

Renew old friendships and enjoy good times in the sunny South Pacific.

CHARLES & HETTIE WALKER TOUR GUIDES

c/o Brekke Travel Inc.
802 North 43rd Street,
Grand Forks, North Dakota 58201

Telephone: (701) 775-5561

Dear Charles & Hettie:

Please reserve _____ seats for me (us) on your:

**164TH INFANTRY REUNION TOUR
IN THE FIJIS
March 4 - March 18, 1983**

OPTIONAL BLUE LAGOON CRUISE: _____ YES
_____ NO

DEPARTURE CITY _____

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

WORK PHONE _____

SIGNATURE(S) _____

(I agree to the tour conditions listed below.)

TOUR CONDITIONS

PRICES: \$1,599 per person includes:

- Roundtrip airfare from Winnipeg (prices from other cities are available upon request) including flights within Fiji as described on the itinerary.

- Accommodations for twelve nights at the hotels indicated on the itinerary based on two people sharing a room (\$75.00 reduction per person for triple occupancy; \$250 supplement for single occupancy).

- All transfers and land transportation between hotels and airports.

- Services of a tour escort throughout.

\$180 per person includes supplement for Blue Lagoon Cruise departing March 17 (\$250 per person for cruise departing March 19). Prices allow credit for accommodations not used at Treasure Island. Extensions in Fiji and/or Hawaii can be arranged for no additional airfare.

PAYMENT AND CANCELLATIONS: A deposit of \$250 per person is required to hold reservations. The balance is due January 21, 1983. Cancellations received prior to January 21, 1983, will be refunded without penalty. After January 21, 1983, cancellations will be subject to a 10% penalty plus any penalties levied by hotels.

RESPONSIBILITY: Brekke Travel, Inc. has arranged these tours for the 164th Infantry Reunion Group. Neither Brekke Travel Inc. nor the 164th Infantry Reunion Group shall be held liable for injury, loss, damage, or delay to person or property due to an act of default of any hotel, carrier, local tour operator, or any other company or person rendering services included in this tour. Brekke Travel Inc. reserves the right to substitute hotels with others of equal or better quality, and to modify the itinerary if deemed necessary for the proper conduct of these tours. Prices are based on current fares and tariffs, and are subject to increase. Tour participants may cancel without penalty within seven days of receiving notice of price increase. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on board their planes. The passage contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this tour and/or passenger. In the event this tour is cancelled, Brekke Travel Inc. and the 164th Infantry Reunion Group shall have no responsibility beyond full refund of all monies paid by the participant. No refunds will be made for unused services.

lished in my lifetime, I don't think. Keep up the good work as always.

I remain,
Everett A. Forde

June 8, 1982

West Leipsic, Ohio

Dear Sir:

I am writing this for my husband who was with the Americal Division and he would like for some of the men to write to him. He has been in the hospital twice recently and we noted this address in the December 1981 issue of the DAV Magazine. Ralph would like very much to obtain the addresses of the following:

Robert Scott, South Dakota; Dean Ponder (?); and Richard Will, Pennsylvania.

Request that if anyone of you who may know these men and their present addresses, please contact: Ralph Retting, 209 Main Street, West Leipsic, Ohio 45856.

P.S. Ralph was in L Co. 164th Infantry, i.e. 4th Platoon (60 MMOTAR)

November 4, 1982

Belcourt, ND 58316

164th Infantry News

Bismarck, ND

Gentlemen:

I have discovered that the 164th Infantry has a newsletter.

I would very much like to receive this newsletter. I was in Co. B of the 164th and was overseas with that unit. I was wounded twice there.

I served from 1941 to 1947. I was wounded in 1945 and was in the hospital from then till I was discharged in 1947. My name is John Davis, born April 17, 1913. I am totally disabled. Would appreciate back issues if I could get some and willing to pay.

Enclosed is \$5.00 for dues.

Sincerely,
John Davis

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

Letters . . .

September 23, 1982
East Wareham, MA

Dear Keith Parsons and Comrades of the 164th Infantry

When we were in the Fijis in late summer of 1943, I was transferred from the 182nd Infantry with who I had come to Australia from New York in January, 1942, thence to New Caledonia, where you joined us later.

Maj. General John R. Hodge made the transfer at my request because of errors made by Cal Long, then commanding the 182nd. Col. Wolfe was General Hodge's chief of Staff at the time and overheard my talk with the General. When I left he threatened to get me, you *@!* "I'll get you!". He was a friend of Long's. So after Gen. Hodge left us when Wolf was acting Div. Comdr., he had me returned to the

states as suffering from combat fatigue!! So, I left the 164th rather suddenly just as Maj. General Oscar Griswold was giving me a battlefield (14th Corps) commendation for my good work.

I would like to become a member of the 164th Infantry Association and hope to attend the reunion in St. Paul.

Gratefully,
Chaplain Franklin

October 30, 1982
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Keith:

Enjoyed your article very much. How many remember? I remember very well and it really brought back memories. Will be looking forward to the next one. Enclosed are my dues and a couple for the News. I wonder how many are going to fill out that questionnaire they sent out. That history will never be pub-

Letters . . .

October 3, 1982

Keith:

Enclosed find a list of members of the 164th Band and current addresses. Our reunion was a success and we have hopes to have it again in the near future. You will notice that some of the fellows are members according to your list. I mentioned at the reunion that I was going to furnish you with the list and perhaps others will join.

Enclosed find my check for \$10.00. The balance of the 1982 year and the other \$5.00 to be applies to 1983. If any is left over put it in the kitty.

Sincerely,
Art "Doc" Nix Sec.
164th Inf. Band Reunion
1012 6th Ave. S.
Moorhead, Mn. 56560

The "STAR" in front of the name, designates members of the 164th. The others joined the band after it became the 2nd. Island Command Band and later the 294th A.G.F. Band.

164th Infantry Band II Island Command Band 294th A.G.F. Band

This roster is not complete but these are the names we have as of August 13, 1981.

- * Able, Charles A.
605 Villa Monte
Monterey Park, CA. 91754
Baggerly, John O.
Barnes, Gene
- * Bell, Charles T. (Phyllis)
18452 Gramerey Dr.
Santa Ana, Ca. 92705
(714) 544-2076
- * Boatman, Charles (Neva)
406 2nd Ave. W.
Lisbon, N.D. 58054
(701) 683-4732
Brandler, Morris
145 Terrace Ave.
Hempstead, Long Island, N.Y. 11550
- * Busching, Leroy (Phyllis)
1412 N 7th. St.
Wahpeton, N.D. 58075
(701) 642-3775
- * Campbell, Douglas B. (Anne)
525 S.E. 3rd.
Mayville, N.D. 58257
(701) 786-3051
Campell, William A. C.W.O.
- * Carlin, Melvin - deceased
Cashion, E.L. M.D. (Polly)
2960 Cane Creek Drive
Germantown, Tenn. 38138
(901) 755-6779
Cavett, Dean
1995 Dixie Hyway
Hamilton, Ohio 45011
Childs, Charles L. (Grace)
18 Oakland Ave.
Rapid City, S.D. 57701
(605) 343-5595
Dimattia, George
- * Dokken, Glenn (Dolores)
426 Oakway S.
Moorhead, Mn. 56560
(218) 236-1487
Dorsey, Johnny
- * Haspert, Arnold
- * Ellerman, Raymond E. (Vicky)
26487 Fairway Circle
Newhall, Calif. 91321
- * Ford, Arthur L. (Pearl)
414 5th Ave, NW
Watertown, SD 57201
(605) 886-3759
Ginsburg, Elleott (Sylvia)
186 Southfield
Shreveport, La. 71105
(318) 865-1319
Gulbrandson, Harold C. - deceased
- * Hanson, Howard - deceased
- * Heaton, Glenn (Phyllis)
(Permanent home)
409 Sundail
Alamagordo, N.M.
(505) 434-0174
Summers
Route # 2 Box 11C
Perham, MN. 56573
(218) 346-3749
Hurbace, Phil
- * Higbee, Neil Rev. (Amy)
Box 246
Concrete, Wash. 98237
(206) 853-3493
- * Holtan, Orville (Veverly)
108 Northwest Drive
Bismarck, ND 58501
(701) 223-2217
- * Holvik, Paul (Miriam)
800 North 2nd Ave.
Moorhead, Mn. 56560
(218) 233-8195
- * Hoppert, Glenn
617 14th Ave. N.
Wahpeton, ND 58075
- * Hyde, George (Christina)
P.O. Box 466
Project City, Calif. 96079
(916) 275-2289
- * Jorgenson, Leon A. (Wilma)
1434 East Willow St.
Anaheim, Calif. 92805
(714) 635-5771
- * Kalinowski, Greg - deceased
- * Kinney, Robert
2138 Western Ave. N.
Roseville, Mn. 55113
- * Kloster, Lynn M. (Mary)
1505 Willow Lane
Mt. Prospect, Ill. 60056
(312) 437-4250
- * Lack, Delbert Jr. - deceased (Myrtle)
Lisbon, N.D. 58054
(701) 683-5759
- * Lohr, Leslie
Box 1616
Quartzsite, Ariz. 85346
- * Mace, Charles - deceased
- * Maseec, Clyde (Gilberta)
1655 West Ajo
Tucson, Ariz. 85713
(602) 294-9592
- * Maseec, Hugh I. (Florence)
RR2
Fargo, N.D. 58102
(701) 232-3004
McClintock, William
P.O. Box 61
Westville, N.J. 08093
(609) 456-3441
- * McDougall, Robert D. - deceased
McKean, Verd (Eloise)
3227 Garfield Ave.
Alameda, Cal. 94501
(415) 523-9238
- * Melroe, Roger (Dorthea)
30722 Paseo Del Niguel
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677
(714) 495-5874
- * Moore, Harley M. - deceased (Josie)
Lisbon, ND 58054
(701) 683-4266
- * Nix, Arthur J. (Donna)
1012 6th Ave. S.
Moorhead, MN. 56560
(218) 233-3883
- * Nygard, Howard E. (Lillian)
2126 Collyer
Longmont, Colorado 80501
(303) 651-0421
- * Nygard, Vern - deceased (June)
1321 S. 15th
Fargo, N.D. 58102
(701) 235-1767
- * Oehlke, Ralph (Pearl)
Fort Ransom, ND 58033
- * Parmeter, James L.
21462 Pacific Coast Hwy.
Space 204
Huntington Beach, CA 92648
Peterson, Stanley A. (Bette)
Iseosa Box 437
Al Kharij
Via Riyadh
Saudia, Arabia
or 1983 summer address
Cloud 8
Waupaca, Wis. 54981
- * Purdon, James - deceased (Myrtle)
Rt. #1
Dalton, Mn. 56324 - summers
- Reynolds, O.W.
- * Ronning, Perry
Fort Ransom, ND 58033
- * Rockne, Wesley (Sylvia)
697 W. Grandview Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55113
- * Russell, William - deceased
- * Sandager, Elmer
335 N. Lewis
Waukegon, Ill. 60085
662-2682
- * Sanders, Robert (Margaret)
2821 Seton Hill Court
Sacramento, Cal. 95727
(916) 383-5768
Sarver, Clarence
Schnair, Joseph H.
- * Schoffler, Franklin (Dolores)
325 West Palouse River Dr.
Moscow, Idaho 83843
(208) 882-7196
Schoonmaker, Wilbur
thought to be deceased
- * Schweigert, Emil - deceased
Stefani, John
- * Stockstad, Arvid - deceased
- * Swanson, Elmer D. (Eleanor)
71 Leo Swanson
913 Anderson
Bismarck, ND 58501
- * Swanson, Leo (Eva)
913 Anderson
Bismarck, ND 58501
(701) 223-8413
- * Viestenz, Robert - deceased (Myrtle)
304 McKinly
Walla Walla, Wash.
(509) 528-1844
Vanderhork, Monty
- * Wicklund, Leonard
Center, ND 58440
(701) 794-3122
- * Wright, Gerald E. - deceased CWO
- * Zeitlow, Walter
733 Vassar St.
Delano, CA 93215

Need Correct Address For:

Norman H. Tompson
Arvada, Colorado

Lester Grue
Newbury Park, California 91320

How about it? Can any of you supply us with the correct ones? *Editor.*

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 1983 — \$5.00, includes subscription to 164th News.

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

Letters . . .

10/13/82
Cambridge, Ohio

Dear Comrade:

In one of the recent issues of the 164th Infantry News someone wondered when and where the 164th Infantry got its name and number.

If my memory serves me right the 1st North Dakota Volunteer National Guard served on the Mexican border in 1916. Shortly afterwards war was declared in 1917. The Governor of North Dakota ordered that a 2nd regiment be organized. This was done and it was named the 2nd Volunteer Infantry North Dakota National Guard Regiment. In July of 1917, orders to mobilize both regiments went out. This was done. In October of 1917 we received orders (both 1st and 2nd regiments) to go to Camp Greene in Charlotte, North Carolina. Upon arriving in Camp green, orders were cut, (on October 10, 1917, officers of the former 2nd North Dakota Infantry who had lost their commands due to a reorganization upon arrival of the regiment were assigned or attached to new units) wherein the men of the two North Dakota Infantry units were combined by in large into a newly formed regiment with the designation of the 164th Infantry Regiment. Previous to this the 42nd Division had been activated and named the Sunset Division because all of its troops came from the West. Four regiments assigned to the new Division were the 161st, 162nd, 163rd and the 164th Infantry Regiments. The 161st was from Oregon. The 162nd was from Washington, I believe. I know the 163rd was from Montana. Other troops were National Guards from western states. The 164th was made up of North Dakota National Guardsmen.

After a few weeks of training we were loaded aboard the Levathian (the 163rd and 164th) on December 14, 1917 and debarked on December 24, 1917. We were in England until after New Years and then shipped to France. On arrival, we were broken up and the bunch was transferred to the 1st Division. I believe that most of the 164th went to the 26th Infantry of the 1st Division to bring it up to war strength. The regulars of the Division did not have a high regard for , as we were called.

However, after our 1st tour of the trenches, they accepted us. So, let it be said that members of the 164th participated in most of the offenses of 1918 and a great number of former members of the 164th were either killed or wounded. So, it can be said that North Dakota troops were in there first in WWI, as well as being in first in the Philippines and the first at Guadalcanal.

Milton N. Thompson

Editors Note: Milt, you have a few errors, but it still makes for interesting reading. Thanks.

842 Randolph Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 11, 1982

Dear Keith:

The 1982 Regunion is now history and I hope that everyone who attended had an enjoyable time and hope that they return to St. Paul again. I, for one, was certainly disappointed by not being able to attend while it was practically in my own back yard. I had already sent in

my registration money, but at the last minute I was involved in an accident beyond my control and was forced to withdraw. I was looking forward to seeing some of the gang, but that's over the dam for this year.

My wife and I are looking forward already to the next one, be the good Lord willing. I'm enclosing my check, Keith for a Life Membership and will be looking for it in the mail in the near future. Maybe you can tell me if and where I can get a 164th Infantry Decal for my car. I'd surely appreciate any help that I can get. Thanking you in advance and will be watching the mail and eagerly awaiting a reply from you.

Sincerely,

Verne R. Tester

842 Randolph Avenue

St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

Co. L 164th Infantry

August 31, 1982

Mesa, AZ

Dear Keith:

Here is my check for tickets and dues for the coming year. \$12 for tickets, \$5 for dues.

Sorry can't make it this year, hope all have a good time. I'll be thinking of you guys. Have a couple for me.

Was up in your part of the world for five weeks this summer. Had quite a time moving the wife's mother down here, her aunt also. My mom passed away while I was home. Was glad we were there.

Take care,

D.D. Oster

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:

Marion D. Avery October 19, 1983 St. Paul, MN

The 164th Infantry News

Box 1111
BISMARCK, N.D. 58502

ALVIN TOLLEFSDUD

MAYVILLE, NDAK 58257

HELP!

Would like the correct addresses of the following:

Clarence Risser — last address Valley City, ND

Warren Hartung — last address Topanga, CA

Alvin A. Graf — last address Minneapolis, MN

Request anyone knowing the correct address of the above please forward same to Editor of the 164th Infantry News so they too may receive their paper.

Thank you sincerely,
Keith P. Parsons.