



3-2007

164th Infantry News: March 2007

164th Infantry Association

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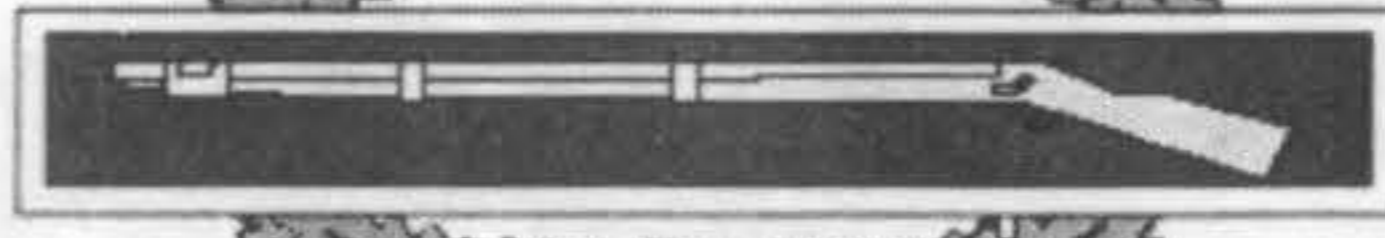
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The Ultimate Weapon the Combat Infantryman

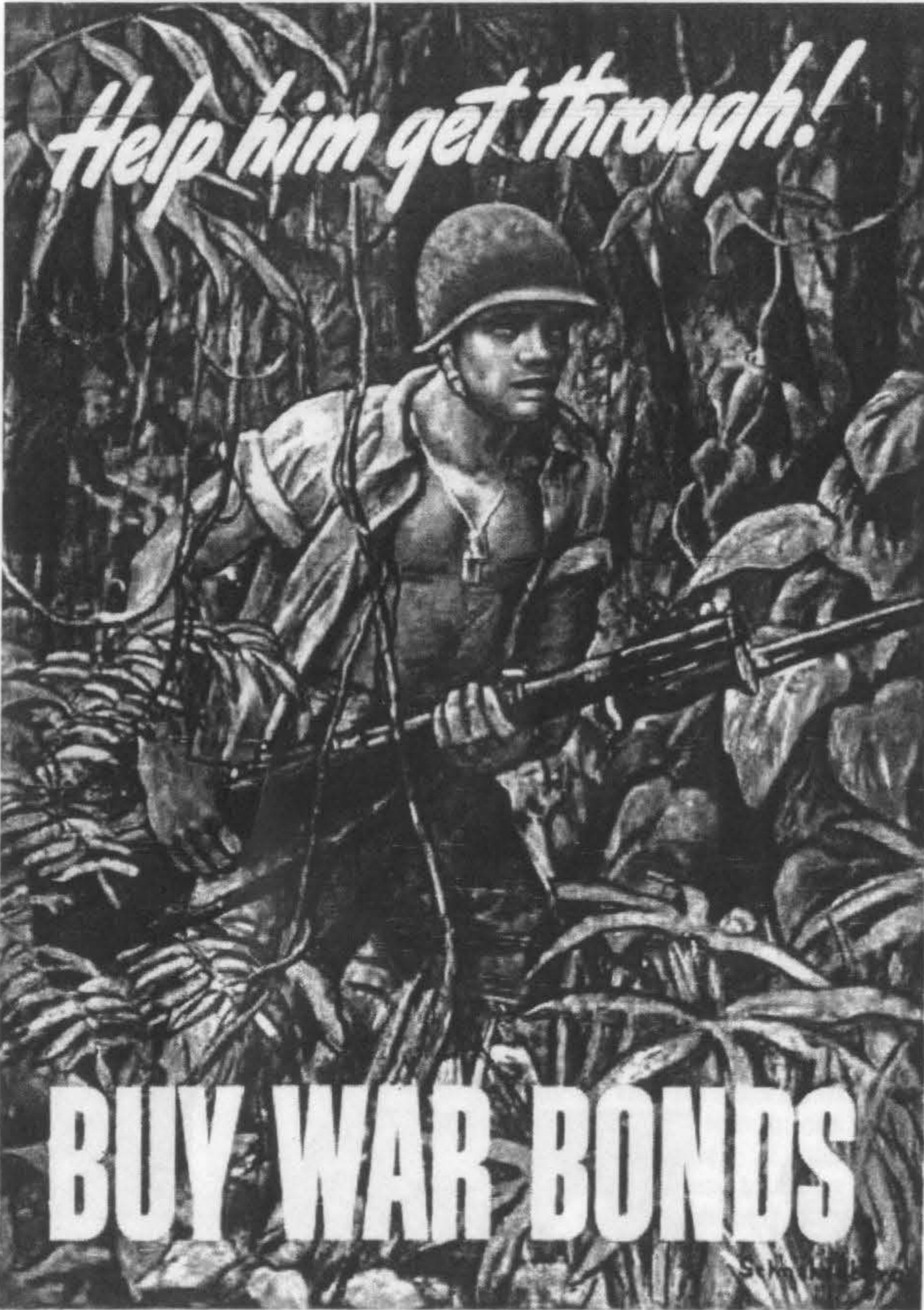


THE 164TH INFANTRY NEWS

Vol. 48, No. 1

March, 2007

WWII Bonds Bought Your Bullets



On 1 May 1941, the first Series "E" U.S. Savings Bond was sold to President Franklin D. Roosevelt by the Secretary of the Treasury. On 3 January 1946, the last proceeds from the Victory Bond campaign were deposited to the Treasury.

LET'S BLAST 'EM JAPANAZIS!



Buy WAR STAMPS HERE-NOW!



The War Finance Committees, in charge of the loan drives, sold a total of \$185.7 billion of securities. This incredible mass selling achievement (for financing a war) has not been matched, before or since. By the end of World War II, over 85 million Americans had invested in War Bonds—a number unequalled by any other country.

More on Page 2...

PUBLISHED BY ABBOTT LABORATORIES AS A CONTRIBUTION TO THE TREASURY'S WAR FINANCE PROGRAM

**Carol Lombard Gable,
Bond Spokeswoman,
Called "First Woman
Casualty of WWII" by FDR**



Following the entrance of the United States into World War II in 1941, **Clark Gable** sent a telegram to President Franklin D. Roosevelt offering to join the Army. The President replied, "Stay where you are." An active patriot, Gable was made chairman of the Hollywood Victory Committee. In January 1942, he arranged for his wife, **Carol Lombard**, to embark on a bond selling tour, scheduled to end in Indianapolis. Following a rousing performance at the fundraiser, Carol Lombard and her mother boarded the plane home to California at four AM, Friday, January 16, 1942. After fueling in Las Vegas, the plane took off on a clear night, and 23 minutes later crashed into a mountain thirty miles southwest of Las Vegas. All passengers were killed. President F.D. Roosevelt, who admired her patriotism, declared her the first woman killed in the line of duty during the war and posthumously awarded Lombard the **Presidential Medal of Freedom**.

Devastated, **Gable** joined the Army as a **41 year old private**. After earning a commission, he went to London as part of a new military film unit to shoot "**Combat America**", a propaganda film about air gunners. Gable and crew followed a B17 named "Ain't It Gruesome" during 24 missions. Gable volunteered to fly on five combat missions, including one where he was nearly hit when anti-aircraft fire damaged the airplane. At least one of his missions was aboard another B-17, named "Delta Rebel 2," part of the 91st Bomb Group. Gable was released from active duty as a Major on June 12, 1944, at his request, since he was overage for combat. He resigned his reserve commission in 1947.

Sources: Air Force Times, 10/30/2000, Vol. 61 Issue 14, p42.
Author(s): Dorr, Robert F.
http://www.geocities.com/cactus_st/index.html (Clark Gable)
<http://www.homeofheroes.com/index.html>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carole_Lombard
<http://www.murphsplace.com/lombard/bio.html>

BUY THOSE BONDS!!!

(From Page 1)



The War Finance Committee oversaw the sale of bonds. The Committee's first duty was to determine whether the government would pay for advertising or seek space contributions from magazines & newspapers.

When an estimation of the cost of a nationwide, multi-media campaign for a year reached \$4 million, the Committee elected to solicit space donations for bond advertisements. This decision proved highly successful. Over a quarter of a billion dollars of advertising was donated in the first three years of the Defense Savings Program.

After one month alone, over 90% of Americans polled were aware of the Payroll Savings Plan part of the campaign, leading one advertising executive to note that "no promotional campaign, commercial or governmental, has ever spread its basic message so broadly, so quickly."

The war bond campaign was a unique fusion of nationalism and consumerism. Seeking to stir the conscience of Americans, it invoked both their financial and moral stake in the war. The sale of war bonds provided a way in which patriotic attitudes and the spirit of sacrifice could be expressed, and became the primary way those on the home-front contributed to the national defense/war effort.

One observer noted, "It was a program that instead of seeking to eradicate differences...would make them a source of strength and unity by finding a common cause in which all could work for the financial security of themselves and of their country."

While the initial goal of the war bond campaign was to finance the war, the positive impact on the morale of home-front Americans was perhaps its greatest accomplishment.

<http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/adaccess/warbons.html>



WAR BONDS



FOR VICTORY

AT LEAST 10% OF YOUR PAY EVERY PAYDAY



SAVED BY THE BACON

by Sgt Maj (ret) Joe Castagneto



10-in-1 Breakfast

The 10-in-1 ration was composed of 5 menus, supplying between 8500-8050 calories and between 91-121 grams of protein. The vitamin & mineral content was slightly below requirement, and the ration weighed 5 more pounds than specifications called for. The full day's rations were divided into two sets of two cartons, each set with food for five men so it could feed ten men for a day or five men for two days (or even one man for ten days). The four cartons were placed into a larger packing carton. Each separate carton contained one of five different menus containing a wide variety of canned food and accessory items such as cigarettes, matches, can openers, toilet tissue, soap, water purification tablets, and paper towels.

Photo & Text used w/permission from Chuck Chriss, Editor, www.olive-drab.com, a website which has an incredible amount of military reference information.

This is the 2nd of 4 food-related articles submitted by SGM Castagneto. See "Spaghetti a la Bougainville" on Page 22 of the July 2006 *News*.

In early April 1945, after a brief rest and resupply, **Co A** was alerted to go on our normal mop up operations on **Cebu Island, Philippines**. Each person was issued a case of **C Rations** and each squad got one carton of **10 in 1 Rations**. We had **Jungle Packs** at that time which could hold a case of **C Rations** and had other pockets and straps to carry extra items. After we were ready to go, I noticed a can of bacon on the ground. That type of food was gold to me and I couldn't leave it behind. I looked around and found a member of my squad with a loose strap on his pack. If I recall correctly it was **PFC Deedering**. I asked him to turn around so I could tie the can to the top of the pack in back of his neck. This area of the pack is where you would tie your **Horseshoe Roll**. I got all kinds of excuses -- carrying too much weight, no place to carry with ammo and all. He continued to resist my decision then finally gave in. He had no choice since I was his **Squad Leader**. We departed our area and about 2 hours or so later, we encountered **Japs**. All hell broke loose, gun fire going to and from the enemy. A few moments later, we started receiving mortar fire. A round came real close and I heard somebody call that he had been hit. I crawled to the area and could swear I smelled bacon cooking. I found the man who didn't want to carry the extra rations. He said the back of his neck was hurting. I discovered a piece of shrapnel had penetrated the can of bacon. He didn't receive a scratch. I said, "That can of bacon saved your life". He looked at me and said, "THANK YOU." He and I had no problem after that.

Things your Drill sergeant didn't tell you about...

THE JERRY CAN...WHAT'S THAT "X" FOR??

The US 5-gallon gas can originated early in World War II, copied from German "Wehrmachtskanister" or "Benzinkanister" made in the 1930s. The superiority of the German can was recognized by the British and Americans in the North African campaign and was immediately copied, replacing the earlier British "flimsy" can that was subject to problems. The name "Jerry Can" comes from the slang WWI name for the German soldiers, a tacit salute to the German's superior engineering. The Jerry Can has some unique design features that have made it so



successful in field use. It holds 5 gallons, and is not too heavy for one man to carry or strap to a packboard. **It has an X-shaped indentation on each side for additional strength.** The opening was placed on a slant to the top, and it has a dome behind the handles, so it is not possible to completely fill the can, always allowing for further expansion and to maintain

enough air inside so it will float in water. There is an internal air tube to a small hole at the opening so air can replace fuel as it is emptied. It is rectangular so can be stacked in large, orderly piles or into trucks with little wasted space. It has three handles so it is easy to move by hand, one man to the next -- in "bucket brigade" fashion -- or for two men to carry the can between

them. The nomenclature is "CAN, GAS, MILITARY, 5 GAL".

http://www.olive-drab.com/od_mvlg_jerry_can_metal_gas.php

OLIVE-DRAB

If you want one website that will help you find almost anything about military history, then www.olive-drab.com is for you! The Editor, Chuck Chriss, has given me permission to print info from the site, and he even changed some the "Guadalcanal history" narrative to accurately state that the 164th was the first American unit to arrive there. He says his site is "a labor of love", and the incredible amount of information there proves it!



A possible new book.... containing 164 Infantry Regiment stories

“I am Ready”: The 164th Infantry in WWII

Dakota History magazine to Dr. Terry Shoptaugh, a professor at Minnesota State University Moorhead.

The article, “Missing in Action: A Family’s Experience During World War II,” told the story of James Hagen, an Army Air Force flier who was missing in action during

the war. “I think this recognizes the ordeal of the Hagen family more than it does my writing,” Shoptaugh said when accepting the award. “And that’s fine, because mostly I used the letters of the Hagen family as they tried to find out what happened to him, and an interview with Jim Hagen’s sister, to tell the story. Their words were far more poignant than anything I could write.”

The story of James Hagen (who had died in a bomb raid over Germany, and whose remains were found after the war) marked the second time Shoptaugh has written about the Hagen family. In 1999, Shoptaugh published a two-part article

about James’ brother, John Hagen, who was with the 164th Infantry at Guadalcanal. “In John’s story I also used his own words as much as possible. Back in the 1970s, John dictated about twenty hours of tape about his army experiences for his nephew. I was able to listen to these tapes, and after checking

them against published works and documents to ensure the accuracy of John’s memories, I wrote the article with extensive quotes from him”

Shoptaugh now hopes

to interview other 164th veterans and write a book about the Regiment’s actions in World War II. “I want to do something similar to what Stephen Ambrose did in using interviews with veterans in his books *D-Day* and *Citizen Soldiers*, letting their words convey what it was like to fight and survive in the Pacific campaigns at Guadalcanal, Bougainville, and the Philippines. I hope I can persuade 164th Association members to contact me so we could make recordings of their experiences, and publish something that could be part of the Regiment’s Pacific service, and something that could be a permanent part of their family’s histories.”

“So much that has been published about Guadalcanal focuses on the Marines. There needs to be more from the 164th Infantry’s experiences and contributions... there, and throughout the Pacific campaign.” --Shoptaugh

Dr. Shoptaugh asks anyone who is interested in being part of this historical documentation of the 164th Infantry Regiment during World War II to contact him at:
Minnesota State University Moorhead,
1104 South 7th Ave, Moorhead, MN 56563
phone: (218) 477-2343 e-mail: shoptaug@mnstate.edu



A verified Timeline for the Book:
 Official War Department Documents
 164 Infantry Regiment

164th Infantry Association Records, Collection #1278, were deposited in the Orin G. Libby Manuscript Collection at the University of North Dakota by James Fenelon, Marshalltown, Iowa, on May 27, 1998 (Acc.#98-2189).

These files are open for inspection under the rules and regulations of the Department of Special Collections, and will be used in Shoptaugh’s manuscript as a timeline for the actions and campaigns of the Regiment. The individual stories, descriptions, and activities obtained from you 164th soldiers will be aligned with the official battle descriptions.

Included in this collection are Special Orders, April 1941; General Orders, February 12, 1944- November 18, 1944; S1 Journals, March 19, 1942-June 19, 1943; S2 Journals, October 15, 1942-June 21, 1945; S3 Reports, June 21, 1945-November 9, 1945; Guadalcanal: Report of Engagements, June 1943, Battle of Henderson Field, June 1943; Battle of Koli Point, June 1943; Report of Operations in Leyte, 1945; Villaba, February 1945; V-2 Operations in Cebu and Negros, 1945; Blacklist Operations, Occupation of Japan, 1945; Bougainville; A/A Report; Night Operations in the Pacific Oceans, February 1945; Field Orders, 1945; War Department’s Historical Records: 164th on Guadalcanal, 1943; Fiji, 1943; Bougainville, 1943-1945; Bougainville, 1944; Upper Laruma Valley; Night Operations in the Pacific Ocean Area, 1945; Leyte, 1945; KIA, MIA, and Award Reports, 1943-1944.

A complete listing may be viewed at <http://www.library.und.edu/Collections/164inf.html>

Excerpt from Hagen Tapes on the 164th Infantry at Guadalcanal

by Dr. Terry Shoptaugh (an example of authorship & potential book content)

John Hagen, a resident of Moorhead, Minnesota, joined Company B of the North Dakota Guard in the fall of 1940. John's friend Bill Boyd later remembered that he and his Guard buddies had talked John into joining because it would be a "good thing" for the rather diffident young man. As it happened, the Guard was expecting to be called to active duty before the end of 1940 and its infantry companies around the state were seeking new recruits. In the coming weeks, some joined up because they thought it might be an adventure to be in the Guard. Some joined because they were bored and wanted to "get out of North Dakota," while others, who knew the U.S. Army was going to be expanding its forces through the recently enacted draft law, preferred to join a Guard unit where they had friends. John Hagen may have joined for this last reason. When the 164th left for Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, in February 1941, John was with the men of Company B. More than a year and a half later, Hagen went to Guadalcanal, attached as a communications specialist to his battalion's headquarters.

On the night of October 24-25, while the critical battle for control of the island (usually called the Battle for Henderson Field) was being fought to its conclusion, Hagen was on duty in the company headquarters. "I was on the switchboard," he recalled about thirty years later. "Billy [Boyd, Hagen's immediate superior] came jumping into the dugout and said we were getting hit again pretty heavy." Boyd told Hagen that the phone line to Company K was down and he wanted John to "go find the break in it" and repair it. So Hagen set off, crawling along the length of the line, keeping low because of all the "crap flying through the air like you wouldn't believe." On his way down the line, he ran across the friend he knew from his days at the University of North Dakota:

"Here I was sneaking along the ground and I saw this guy leaning against a palm tree. I stopped and looked. There was Rilie Morgan, who was maybe an inch or two taller than I, but not much. He was a law student at the University of North Dakota. Rilie was the all-business type. I saw that helmet and I knew it was one of our people, unless a Jap had put on one of our helmets and was just leaning against this palm tree. It was so dark down there you couldn't tell. I went "psst," like that, and he said,

"Who is it?"

"Hagen. I'm looking for a break in the wire."

"Oh, John, get up here. I want to show you something."

I crawled up there to him by this tree. He was about maybe ten yards away from me by the time I spotted him. It was so damn dark. You know, the Japs would throw up a flare, and you would have to freeze right to the ground. Sometimes we'd fire off one of our flares, looking to see if there were any more out there alive. Then, of course, you would blast them. Our lines weren't all that far apart.

So, I was leaning up against a tree with Rilie, and he said, "Look down there." It was kind of a pathway

[leading to the ridge]. There was a flare in the sky down by the front lines. You could just barely see with the glow of light down there. [There was a large pile of something on the path]. I said, "My God, it looks like a dump." He said, "Those are all Jap soldiers." "What in the hell is going on?" "Well," he said, "I'll tell you. I can see them. I sit against this tree." He was just like an old farmer leaning back, sitting on the ground leaning against the tree with his rifle between his legs. He said, "Watch this now. Pretty soon another one will jump out into the path." He was sitting looking straight down a path, which ran parallel to the front lines about forty yards back. I had only [crawled] twenty or thirty yards from my



John Hagen in 1941, just prior to leaving for Camp Claiborne

dugout so far. We almost had to shout to each other, the noise was so weird. Explosions all around, hearing those 37's go "whomp." You knew that was canister shot and then the mortars were coming down. Billy [Boyd] was sitting on the board then.

I finally told Rilie, "Jeez, I got to repair this damn line. Company K isn't in communication with the front lines at all. K is on sound power to us thru L and I [Companies]. I strung those lines myself. But I've got to get down there [and fix the phone line]."

Morgan accompanied Hagen up to the Ridge, where the battle was still being raged. What Hagen saw there was burned into his memory for the rest of his life.

The remainder of Hagen's memoir about Guadalcanal is currently in Shoptaugh's "Never Raised to be a Soldier," winter and spring 1999 issues of *North Dakota History*.

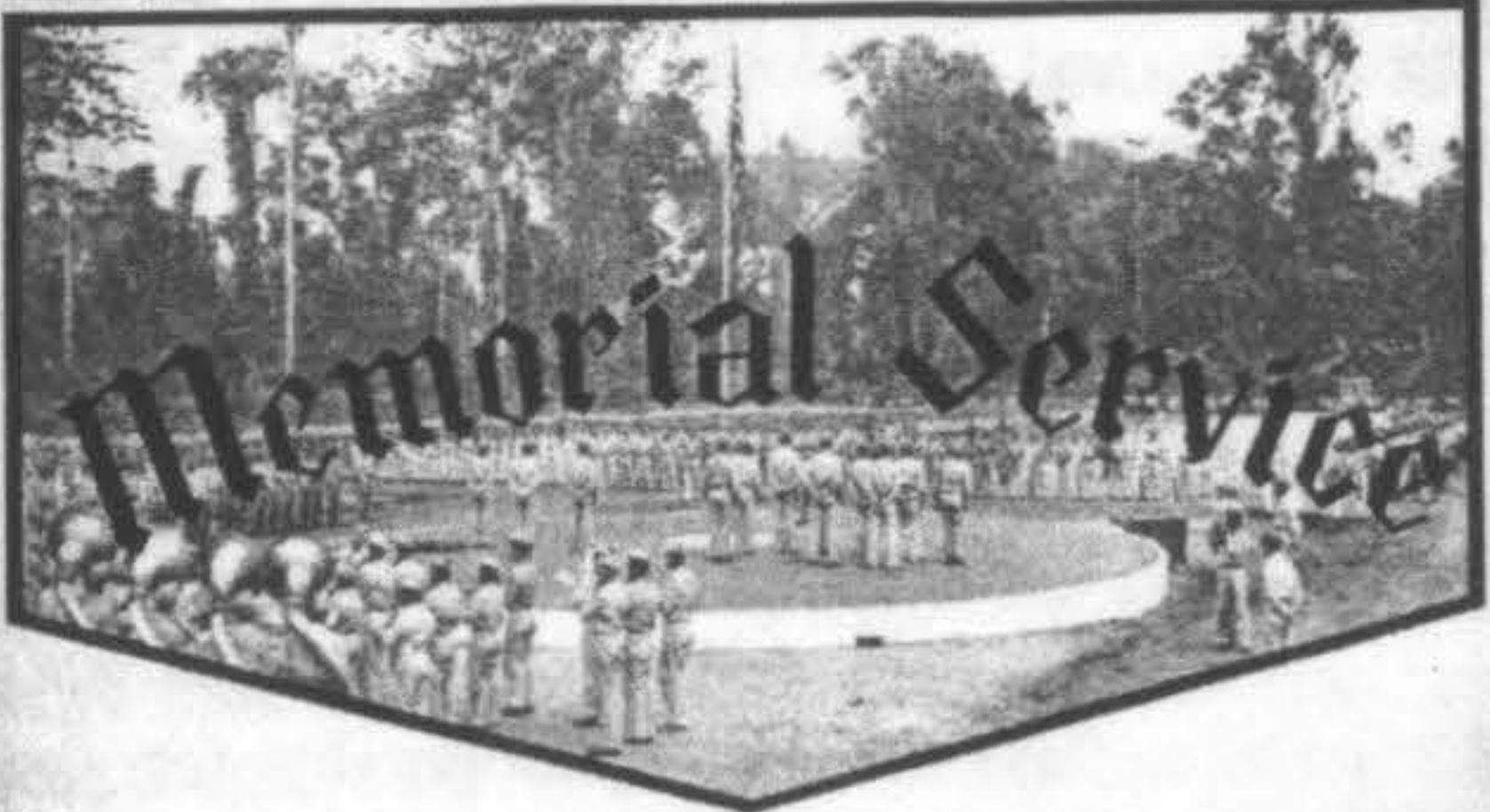
POSTINGS ON THE AMERICAL WEBSITE

WE'VE DISCOVERED A GOLDMINE!!

Looking For: Members of 164th Infantry WWII

Other Info: I have recently uncovered my Father's Records (Major Frank E Doe) and other records of the 164th Infantry (RHQ) from Dec 41, Task force to its Decommissioning Dec 45. There are many special orders, lists and awards, including a few G-1 notes. I would like to hear from anyone that served with him or any other Americal unit or might need some of these records.

Contact: Barry Doe. 485 Old Colchester Rd, Uncasville, CT 06382, email: bdoe@myeastern.com



AMERICAL DIVISION

NEARER MY GOD TO THEE	DIVISION BAND
INVOCATION	CHAPLAIN DUNFORD
ROLL CALL	MAJOR STODDARD
MEMORIAL ADDRESS	GENERAL McCLURE
TAPS AND VOLLEYS	BUGLERS FIRING SQUAD
BENEDICTION	CHAPLAIN LEE
NATIONAL ANTHEM	DIVISION BAND

BOUGAINVILLE MILITARY CEMETERY

Editor: Barry Doe is allowing us complete access to the records he found in his father's memorabilia. He mailed my two large packets of records for me to scan and return. **Maj. Frank Doe** was assigned to the G-1, Americal Division, but was also attached to the 164 for awhile. I will do a profile page on Major Doe when I've gathered enough personal info about him, but I wanted to share some documents from this information "goldmine"



Memorial

WE ARE GATHERED HERE TODAY IN THIS AMERICAN CEMETERY, THOUSANDS OF MILES FROM OUR HOMELAND IN RESPECT AND MEMORY OF OUR FELLOW SOLDIERS WHO HAVE DIED ON THIS ISLAND, WITHOUT DISTINCTION AS TO CREED OR HERITAGE WE OFFER OUR UNITED PRAYERS IN THEIR BEHALF TO OUR MAKER, AND AS WE PRAY THAT THEIR SACRIFICES MAY NOT HAVE BEEN IN VAIN WE GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOSS AS WE WOULD FOR OUR OWN SONS AND BROTHERS.

AS WE LOOK OVER THIS QUIET AND CHRISTIAN SCENE, SO PEACEFUL NOW IN THE MORNING LIGHT, THESE BRAVE AND DAUNTLESS DEAD SEEM TO ANSWER US AND SAY, "GRIEVE NOT! WE HAVE LIVED TO THE FULL OUR YOUTHFUL LIVES AND ARE SATISFIED THAT OUR SACRIFICES AND EFFORTS WILL MAKE FOR A BETTER WORLD AMONG MEN, WE FOUGHT TO PRESERVE FOREVER THOSE IDEALS, INSTITUTIONS AND FREEDOMS, WHICH IN THE PRIVACY OF OUR HEARTS WE CALL AMERICA. THERE CAN BE NO REAL TRAGEDY IN DYING SUCH---UNLESS THEY ARE LOST. GRIEVE NOT BROTHERS, FRIENDS AND COMRADES: KEEP UP THE FIGHT.

WE WILL KEEP UP THE FIGHT AND WE ASK ALMIGHTY GOD FOR A SHARE OF THEIR STRENGTH, LOYALTY, BRAVERY AND WILLINGNESS FOR SELF SACRIFICE, IF WE CAN THUS INFUSE OURSELVES WITH THE ESSENCE OF THEIR SPIRIT, THEY WILL TRULY NEVER DIE BUT WILL LIVE FOREVER WITH US, STRENGTHENING AND GUIDING US IN THE FIGHT AHEAD. THEN WE WILL BE LOYAL TO THESE GALLANT MEN AND WE PLEDGE TO THEM THAT THEY HAVE NOT DIED IN VAIN FOR AMERICA. BATTLES ARE WON BY THOSE WHO FALL.

R.B. McClure
R. B. McCLURE
MAJOR GENERAL, U.S. ARMY
COMMANDING

Address 3

THE AMERICAL DIVISION U. S. A.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

FOR
OUR HONORED DEAD

INVOCATION	Chaplain Rothchild Division Headquarters
NEARER MY GOD TO THEE	The Band 10th Medical Regt.
MILITARY REQUIEM MASS	Chaplain Dunford Division Chaplain
MEMORIAL ADDRESS	Chaplain Franklin 164th Infantry
ROLL CALL	Lieutenant Ballinger Special Services
TAPS & VOLLEYS	Bugler & Firing Platoon
BENEDICTION	Chaplain Hayes Division Artillery
NATIONAL ANTHEM	The Band 10th Medical Regt.
OFFICER IN CHARGE	Chaplain Flaherty 10th Medical Regt.

GUADALCANAL MILITARY CEMETERY
9 MARCH, 1943

NEW MEMBERS FOUND ON AMERICAL WEBSITE

REMEMBERING WALLACE PFAFF, Co G

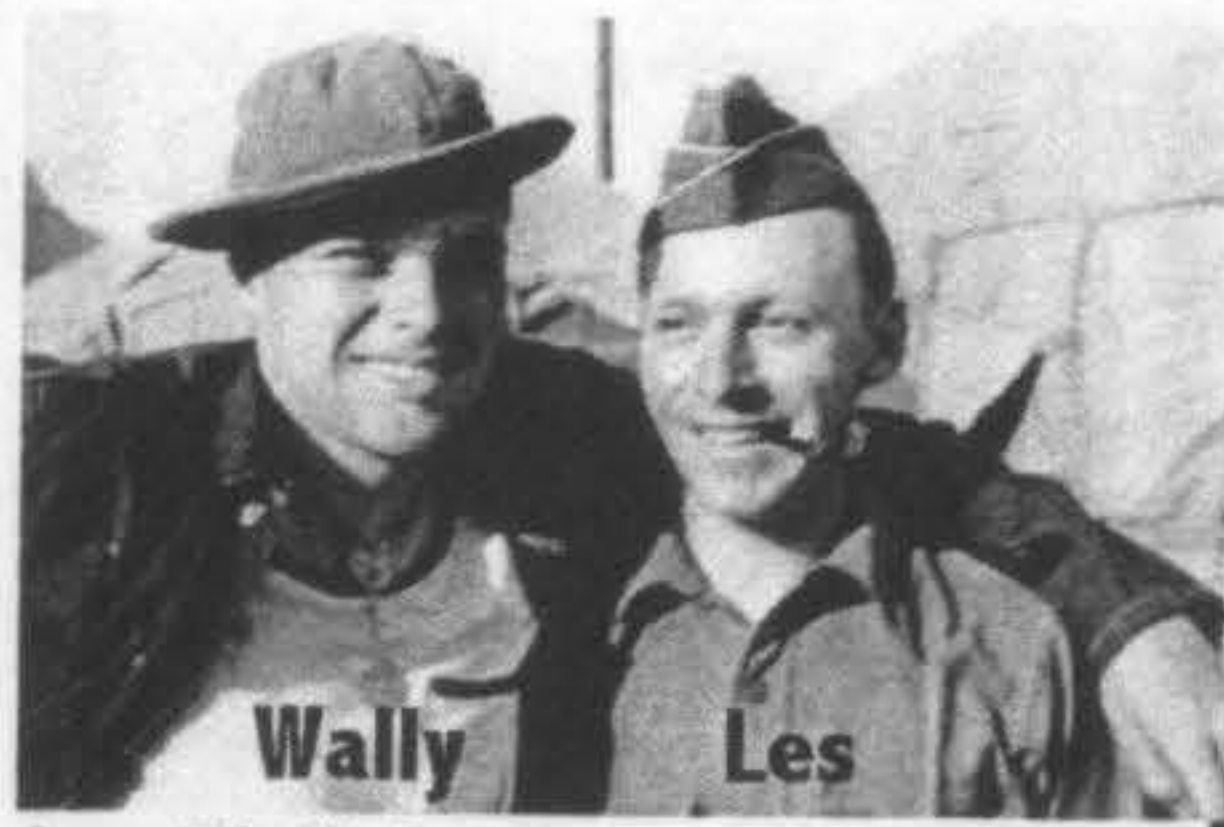
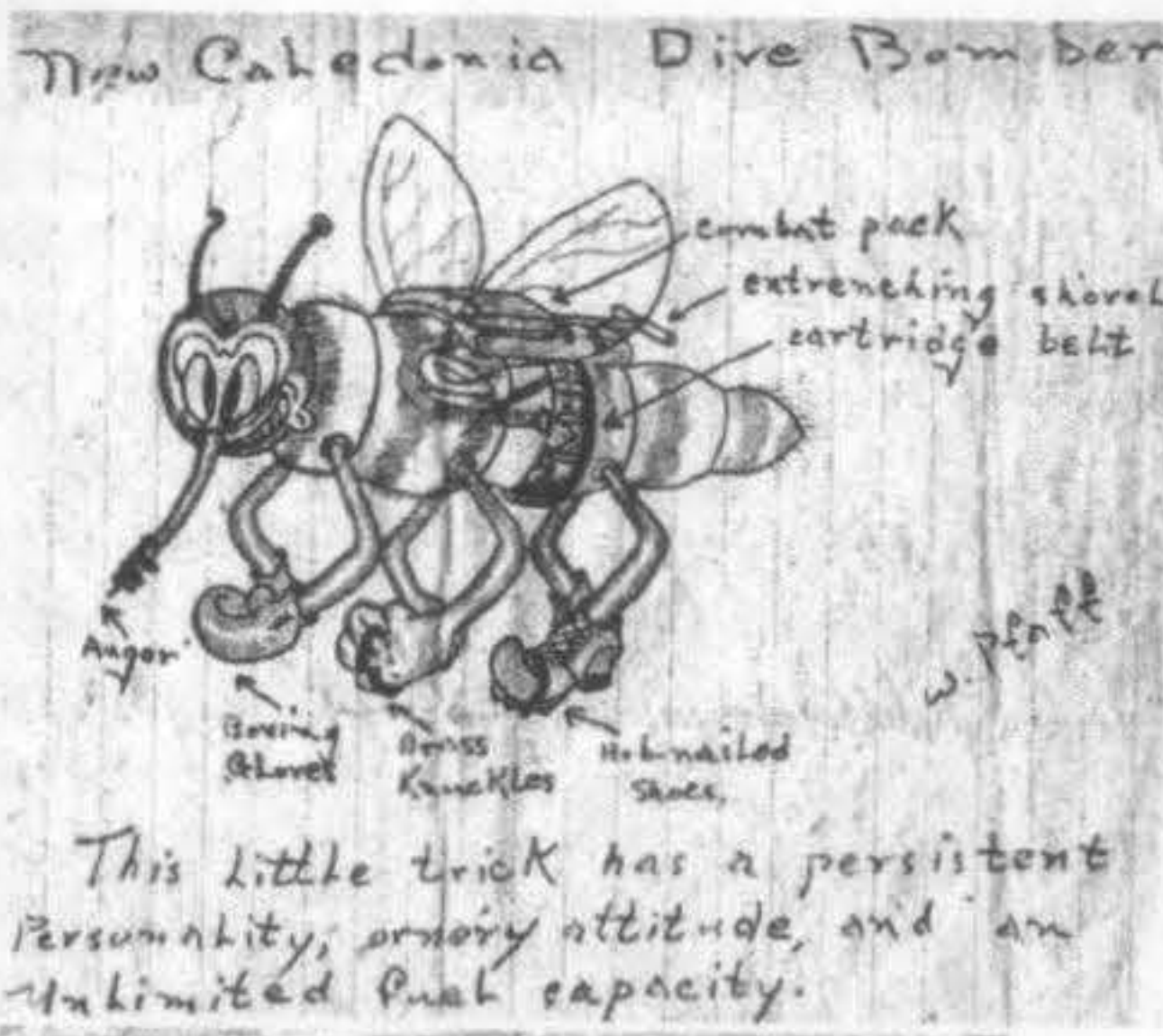
My father, Wallace (Wally) Pfaff from Valley City, ND, served in the 164th, Co G. I am interested in hearing from anyone who may have known my father.

Bary Pfaff, 210 Gray Rd, Templeton, MA 01468
 Email: baryp@hotmail.com
 Phone 978-257-1679

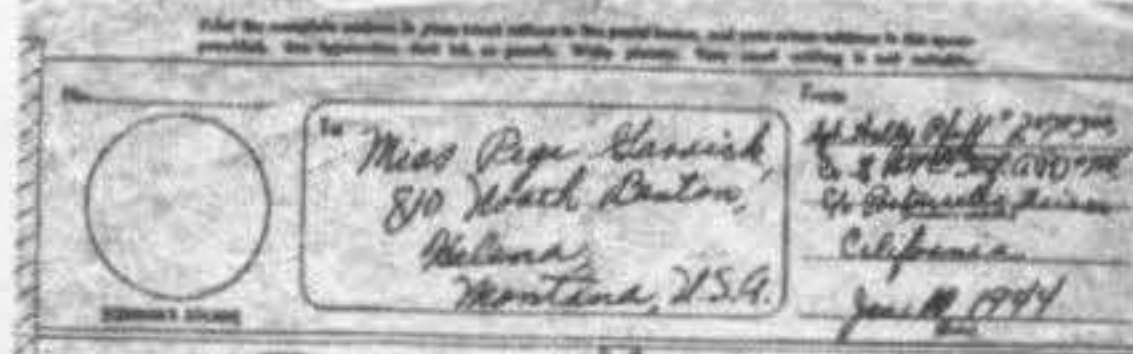
That sign behind us represents the name we acquired from the fellows. The original "Horrible Five" were Al Quasby, Morny, Mike, Al Quasby and me WALLY PFAFF



Wallace & wife Eleanor



Les Pfaff, Co G, was my uncle. R--Sgt. Lester Pfaff, KIA 13 Jan 44. Does anyone know how he received his commission?



Another uncle, Leo V. Pfaff served in the European Theatre of Operations during WWII, but later joined Co G. He passed away 26 May 06.



The photos shown are a few of many I have found, including Co G reunions and cartoons he sketched in combat. He was quite the cartoonist and practical joker. I would appreciate and cherish any stories someone may have of life during the time he served our great country. Regards, Bary

MORE NEW MEMBERS FOUND ON AMERICAL WEBSITE

REMEMBERING ARTHUR S. KOUNTZ, Company C



Looking For Anyone who knew my Grandfather, Arthur S. Kountz, 1921-2003 [Pictured left, 2002]

He served with 164th Inf, Co C, Bougainville, Cebu, Leyte, and Los Negros. I have started a small museum in my home dedicated to my Grandfather and all WWII Americal vets. His picture is in the Americal Division book, 'Under The Southern Cross' on page 77. Thank you and God bless!

Contact: John Etcheverry 544 North F St. Lakeview, OR 97630

Email: basqueboy70@yahoo.com Phone/Fax: (541) 947-3939

My Grandfather married his high school sweetheart, Margaret, in 1940. She was very helpful with the information I needed for this article. Art was drafted into the U.S. Army in May 1943 and served with Co C in Bougainville, Cebu, Leyte, Los Negros. He was wounded on Cebu and then a second more severe time on Los Negros, where he was **left for dead** by medics and his dog tags were collected. When the burial detail came along the next day, they were shocked to find a **"Live One"**. While he was recovering at a hospital and unable to respond, Grandmother was sent a **telegram** stating Grandfather had been **Killed in Action**. She said she knew he

was alive even though everyone thought she was in denial. After making a remarkable recovery, Art hitched a ride on a mail truck that was heading out. To his astonishment, he saw a personal effects package with his name on it being sent to his wife. According to him he had **"one hell of a time convincing the driver he wasn't dead and to give him his stuff back"**.

He and a handful of other soldiers were on patrol--I'm not sure of the location--when they were captured by a large group of Japanese soldiers. They were **tortured** while held in the jungle. He was repeatedly struck on the back of the head by rifle butts and had bamboo shoved under his fingernails. A good buddy died in his arms after having his tongue cut out. They were rescued by men from their own company after a few days. My Grandfather carried the physical and mental scars of this horrible short time for the rest of his life. He was discharged in January 1946, but also served in Korea with the 14th Combat Engrs,

Preparing to blow a bridge in Korea.



separating in '53 as a CWO4. After Korea, he earned degrees in engineering and retired as Chief Building Inspector and Deputy Sheriff, Washoe County Reno, NV.



John also has the official funeral flag that was presented to his Grandmother.



Items in John's collection:
A personal flag
Cigarette package,
Old photo, canteen

I found something interesting in the July 2006 issue that you sent to me. On page 9 there was a story about Morton Marks of Co C. It went on to tell how he was placed as an MP at the war crimes trials after the war. That brought back a memory of a story my Grandfather shared with me. He told me of being placed guard on a Japanese General immediately following the surrender of Japan. He went to his bedroom and came back with an old yellow weathered envelope held a 1000

pesos note that he had the Officer sign as a souvenir. It is very hard to read the signature as it is written in pencil.



I set the note on a light box I have for viewing slides and could see the letters plain as day. You can imagine my surprise to spell out the letters **"Tomoyuki Yamashita"**!

I will be sending in my dues to become an Assoc. Member. I hope someone remembers my grandfather and contacts me. And I thank you again for all your help. God Bless, **John Etcheverry** 544 North F St. Lakeview, OR 97630



Yamashita at his trial for war crimes. He was hanged in 1948. He had been ground force commander in the Philippines.

NEW MEMBERS FOUND ON AMERICAL WEBSITE

REMEMBERING 1ST SGT W. WARREN FREEMAN, Company G



Above, Freeman & wife Helen, 1943
Right, Freeman in the 1990's

Looking For: Friends of 1st Sergeant W. Warren Freeman

Other Info: I am looking for anyone who may have served with my father Warren Freeman who served in the Solomon Islands, and Bougainville during WW II. He received the Bronze Star and was proud of his service to the country and the Americal Division but he would never speak of it. If you knew him please contact me. Thank you,

Contact: William {Billy} W, Freeman Jr, SJO 795, POBox 025331, Miami, FL 33102 Email: william_freeman_109@yahoo.com



Honorable Discharge

This is to certify that

WILLIAM W FREEMAN 31 288 431 FIRST SERGEANT

Company G 164th Infantry Regiment

32. BATTLES AND CAMPAIGNS

Northern Solomons

Southern Philippines

33. DECORATIONS AND CITATIONS

Good Conduct Medal Victory Medal Bronze Star Medal GO 164th Amer Div 19 Aug 45 Asiatic Pacific Theater Campaign Ribbon Philippine Liberation Ribbon With 1 Bronze Service Star GO #23 HQ USSAFE 1945

My Mom passed away from cancer and my Dad passed away in 1999 from blood cancer. My Mom always said he was a good and strong man and a good provider leaving three children, myself William (Billy) Warren Freeman Jr, Karon Lee Freeman, and Patti Freeman; and 3 Grandchildren, Kevin, Collin, & Celina Tobin.

My Mom was quite surprised when she received the package

of trinkets my Dad **hand carved** while he was over there in the South Pacific Theater. He was also a great **artist** & drew many scenes of life over there during the war.

He got the **bronze star** for saving a man who had been shot by a machine gun. After dragging the man to safety, with no regard for his own life,

he single-handedly took out the machine gun nest. Another thing I remembered is that he was first scout and enjoyed being the **point man**.

He was on a ship to invade Japan when the 2nd atom bomb was dropped. Had the bomb not been dropped he felt sure he would not have survived the beach landing. His medals are sealed in a window box to hang on the wall along with the flag that covered his casket, along with a Japanese sword he brought home from the South Pacific.

Proof that her husband, Pvt W. Warren Freeman, who is at Bougainville, is thinking of her constantly is spread out in front of Mrs Helen Freeman of 41 Spring street, West Springfield. The trinkets are hand-carved items of native wood which Pvt Freeman whittled out during spare moments at his South Pacific base. She is wearing a locket he made.



MAJOR, the WAR DOG

Dear Editor Shirley: Carol and I are back in Ohio. We traveled by way of Oklahoma City, OK, where we saw fellow McKenzie County resident, Alvin Nelson, inducted into the National Cowboy Hall of Fame. It was a good time and worth the trip.

As I promised you, here is some stuff about my war dog, Major. Frankly, this was a traumatic experience for me. All the adults talked about the war constantly. My mother and I crouched under the kitchen table during air raid drills and "blackouts" in case the Nazis bombed Wahpeton, ND. I don't remember the Guard being called up, but our neighbors, the Dahlgren's, had 4 sons serving in the Army, and one of them was with the 164th Infantry. So, when the neighbors got together, there was a lot of talk about the war. This was all scary stuff to a 5 year old. Major was my only playmate and companion in rural Wahpeton, and I was shocked when my father suggested we send him off to the Army. This all made sense to me, though, because everyone else was making sacrifices by sending their loved ones off to serve. So, I agreed to give up my friend. I felt like a betrayer for years afterward.

PATRIOTIC DOG JOINS ARMY

Gets honorable discharge after two years

I WAS 5 years old when, in 1943, the U.S. Army wanted donated dogs to train for the war effort. They were looking for a collie, and my pet qualified.

All too soon came the day when Major was to leave. The train pulled into the station and stopped. A boxcar door was thrown open and I saw a wooden crate that was for my dog. A man shouted, "Hurry up! We've got three minutes to get that dog loaded."

Another man tried to pick Major up, but the dog struggled free and soon there were three men grappling with a snarling cur.

Suddenly, my dad said, "Hey, wait a minute! That dog will follow my son anywhere. Let's have Sid get in the crate

and call the dog and he'll jump right in there."

Two of the men boosted me into the boxcar and I got into the crate. "Here, Major," I said, unable to look him in the eyes. "Come on, boy!" My dog jumped into the boxcar and went into the crate wagging his tail.

I wanted to stay there in the crate with Major and accompany him on his journey; instead, I eased myself from the back of the box. A hand grabbed me and pulled me out of the crate and I was lowered to the ground, while a cover with holes in it was slammed onto the end of the crate. Then the door of the boxcar slammed shut with a bang that still rings in my memory.

It was heart-wrenching, but



Five-year-old Sidney Moore and his faithful pal and war hero, Major.

we were reunited two years later, when Major received his honorable discharge and came home.

— Sidney Moore
Cohasset, Minn.

Above: Sid's article appeared in the Sep '99 *American Legion Magazine*.

My dog, Major, was a pioneer. Lassie and Rin-Tin-Tin were just movie stars, but Major was a real K-9 super hero! That's why Major gets 2 squares on Carol's quilt and the rest of us veterans only get one! Sid Moore (K) & Carol, 235 Meadows Dr, Springboro, OH 45066 (summers in Watford City, ND)

At right is one of Major's squares from Carol's quilt. Each square of the large quilt honors a family member who served in the US military with a photo, patch, and info significant to their service.

"MAJOR" RETURNS FROM TWO YEAR'S SERVICE WITH K-9 CORPS

"Major" the 4-year-old Collie belonging to Sidney Moore, Wahpeton, has come from the war, an honorably discharged veteran with two years of active service. The veteran canine was given his release from service at Camp Robinson, Nebraska on March 3 of this year and shipped to Wahpeton as the first canine veteran to come here, Sidney is the son of Mr. and Don Moore, 8th St. N.

Major is not of dogdom royalty, he is just a Collie by virtue of his markings and the fact that he looks more "collie" than anything else. But he does have papers, and they are papers that mean more than any possible breeding list, for Major's papers are an honorable discharge certificate from the Quartermaster Corps of the United States Army. He was attached to the K-9 Section, which is everything the name infers.

His papers read: "The war dog Major, tattoo No. 14F2 having served with the Armed Forces of the United States of America, is hereby awarded this certificate of Faithful Service and Honorable Discharge."

The dog was enlisted May 4, 1943. During the time he was in service he served as a sentry and was trained especially for that service.



Sidney Moore and his veteran dog, Major

An interesting part of the papers which accompanied him home are the instructions to the owners to "untrain" the dog from his army teachings. The papers caution against confusion and against teasing the animal. He has been taught to attack and for that reason he must be handled carefully to unlearn some of the things he learned so well.

For "Major" is a veteran in every sense of the word.

Printed in a Wahpeton Newspaper, 1945
(Wahpeton Daily News or Richland County Farmer-Globe)

A lot of good came out of the "Dogs for Defense" program. The US Army wrote their FM's based on what they learned while training my dog and others. 21 different breeds were tried in the program and collies were among the best and most liked. Today's military dogs stemmed directly from this program, as well as drug and bomb sniffing dogs.



22 EAST 60TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

GIVE DOGS AND DOLLARS

It gives us great pleasure to enclose herewith your certificate of appreciation from the Quartermaster General of the United States Army. Your patriotic response to our appeal for dogs has made it possible for Dogs for Defense, Inc., to meet the Armed Forces' present requirements of over a thousand dogs per month.

Harry I. Casbar
HARRY I. CASBAR, President

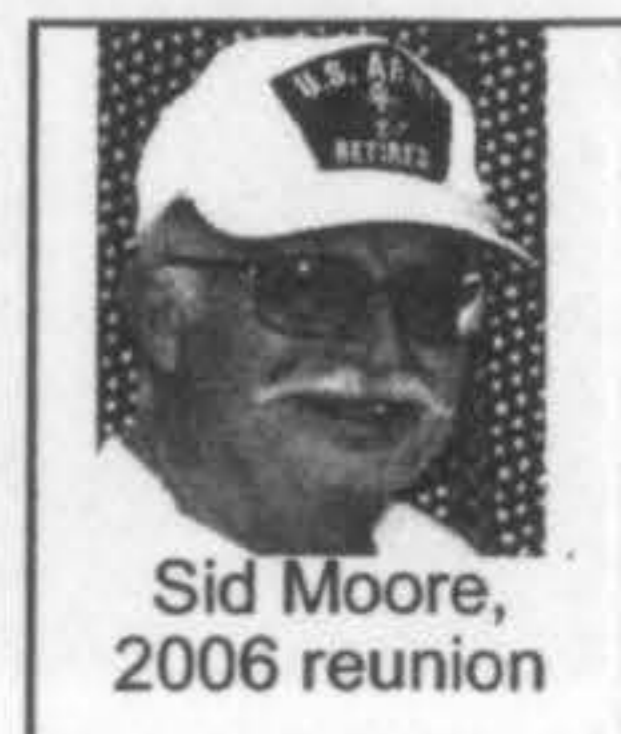
ARMY SERVICE FORCES
WAR DOG RECEPTION AND TRAINING CENTER
FORT ROBINSON, NEBRASKA

28 February 1945

Receipt is acknowledged of the request that your dog Major, Preston Brand 1482 be returned.

The dog is now being reprocessed preparatory to shipment in accordance with your instructions. Notification by wire will be given of shipping date immediately upon satisfactory completion of the reprocessing period.

J. Lee C. Ferguson
J. LEE C. FERGUSON,
2d Lt., Q. M. C.,
Adjut. Gen.



Sid Moore,
2006 reunion

QUARTERMASTER CORPS



WAR DOGS

K-9 SECTION . . . U. S. ARMY

*** **

Honorable Discharge

The War Dog MAJOR Tattoo No. 1482 having served with the Armed Forces of the United States of America, is hereby awarded this Certificate of Faithful Service and Honorable Discharge.

Enlisted: May 4, 1943
Discharged: March 3, 1945
Service: Sentry Duty

These dog discharge papers are rare. Major's was among the last issued by the Army.

Serial No. 5375

Major
MAJOR
THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

Printer of the News is 164 Family!



Sherry Hilfer, daughter of Oswald Berg (164 Anti-Tank Company), and husband, Dennis, are the owners of Minuteman Press, and have been printing the News for almost 2 years. These two just happened to move next door to your Editor a couple of years ago when they came to Bismarck to open their printing franchise. Looking for ways to save money, we got an estimate and switched to Minuteman's cost-saving copy-machine method. Minuteman prints more copies of the News for a lot less money. If you have the July 2005 issue, you'll know we asked for feedback from you readers and Minuteman won, hands down! **Sherry just recently verified that her dad served in the 164th**, so it's a great coincidence!



Left, Dennis Hilfer staples the October 2006 issue of the News.

Here's how the News is made: Your Editor delivers the issue on compact disk (DC) or zip drive to Dennis, who downloads it into a computer that "talks" to the copy machine to line up the pages front to back, in sequence. Each stack of 11x17" printed pages goes to a folding machine. The issue is then assembled by hand, stapled on a saddle stapler, and sent for bulk mailing. . Even before Sherry discovered her 164 connection, she and Dennis always took extra measures to help us produce a quality product. They've been absolutely great to work with, and they're great neighbors, too!



Below, Sherry gets a "hand" from helper-dog, Tucker, as she collates the October issue.

Remembering Oswald Berg, Anti-Tank Company



Oswald Berg was like a lot of WWII veterans—he never talked about the war. It was only recently that Sherry's brother mentioned that he thought their Dad was in the 164. A look at the *Adjutant General's WWII Mobilization Report* verified Berg's name on the 164 mobilization roster, so a copy of his records was requested from the ND National Guard personnel office. Unfortunately, the microfilmed documents were not legible, but a note on one of the forms indicated that Berg had filed his separation documents at the Wells County (ND) Courthouse. Sherry wrote there and received a copy of the WD AGO Form 53-55 Report of Separation, as well as what appears to be a ND National Guard individual profile (below). The family knew he had malaria, the separation document indicated that he returned to the States in June 1944, and there's a photo of him in an infamous Fiji grass skirt -- but the rest of their knowledge of his service would "fit in a thimble". If you knew "Ozzie" Berg, please contact Sherry at 154 Boise Ave, Bismarck, ND 58504, Email: ndgreenthumb@yahoo.com

HONORABLE DISCHARGE FROM THE NATIONAL GUARD OF NORTH DAKOTA AND THE NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to Certify, that Oswald H. Berg, Private, Anti-Tank Company, 164th Infantry, North Dakota National Guard as a Testimonial of Honest and Faithful Service, is hereby Honorably Discharged from the National Guard of North Dakota and the National Guard of the United States by reason of Convenience of State per Paragraph 1 Special Order 57 AGO NDak. 15 May 45. 8/12

Said Oswald H. Berg was born on 13 May 1916 in the State of North Dakota. When enlisted he was 24 years of age and by occupation a Cook. He had Grey eyes, Brown hair, ruddy complexion, and was Five feet Nine inches in height. Given under my hand at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 15th day of May, one thousand nine hundred and Forty-five.

Heber L. Edwards, Brig. General, AGD
The Adjutant General, Commanding.

Frank Godava's "Guadalcanal diary"

by Gail Olson

Long-time Heights resident John Godava has inherited many of his older brother Frank's mementos. Frank served in Company F with the 164th Americal division at Guadalcanal during World War II.

Frank spent more than three years overseas, from March, 1942 to June, 1945. When he returned from the war, he lived in Northeast and worked as a press operator for H.A. Rogers. He died in 1969 at age 49, from an aneurism.

The collection includes photographs, a scrapbook of newspaper clippings and a meticulously-kept diary in which Frank chronicled the months he spent on the islands of Guadalcanal, Bougainville and Fiji.

The Americal division was sent to Guadalcanal to support the First Marine Division; they were the first Army unit to go on the offensive in World War II.

The Godava diary

Frank's diary offers a vivid account of life on the jungle island. He arrived in Guadalcanal on October 13, 1942 at 5 a.m. The first air raid was at noon.

The shelling went on, he wrote, for nine hours.

He reported that when the troops got low on water, they'd had to drink from stagnant ponds. After that, he dug an eight-foot deep well, and he and the other soldiers took 200 helmets full of water from it.

Their division suffered its first casualties on Nov. 6, with one dead and 13 injured. Frank himself was hit in both arms, "nicks," he called them, which he banded himself.

His second close call came when a shell hit six feet from his foxhole, but turned out to be a dud.

He was promoted to corporal on December 16, right before a three-week beach offensive.

He'd served on the front line for five days when a bomb hit 25 yards from his hole.

"I was really scared," he wrote. "The Good Lord had guided over me this far and I hope and pray that he watches over me the rest of the way."

According to the history book "Island Fighting: World War II,"



Frank Godava at Guadalcanal. (Photo courtesy of John Godava)

by Rafael Seinberg, the battles at Guadalcanal signaled the first American offensive of the war.

"In the eight months since Pearl Harbor, the Japanese had appeared to be unstoppable," he wrote. "They had routed the Americans in the Philippines, the Dutch in the East Indies, the British in Burma, Malaya, Singapore and Hong Kong, and were now threatening Australia."

Strategic air base

With an air base on Guadalcanal, their planes would be within striking range of islands in Allied hands, including the New Hebrides, New Caledonia, the Fijis and Samoa.

It was the Americans' job to capture the air base and secure the island, which they did, after two years of fighting. Many Japanese were already entrenched in caves and foxholes; their pilots were bombing the island from the sky and battle ships bombing it from the sea.

According to one soldier's account in "Island Fighting," although the islands looked like paradise from the air, the reality was quite different.

He found it "a mass of slops

and stinks and pestilence. There are scum crested lagoons and vile swamps inhabited by giant crocodiles, spiders as big as your fist, wasps as long as your finger, lizards, tree leeches, scorpions, and centipedes whose foul scurrying across human skin leaves a track of inflamed flesh. By night, mosquitoes come in clouds, bringing malaria."

Swarms of flies settled on food whenever a soldier opened a ration can, he continued, and soldiers learned to eat one-handed, while they waved away the insects with the other hand, a motion that barely gave them enough time to get the food from the can to their mouths.

According to "Island Fighting," more soldiers died from malaria in the South Pacific than from enemy bullets.

On the scene

Arvid Thompson lives in St. Paul. He also served on Guadalcanal, and was close friends with Frank Godava.

He said he remembers one night when he, "Frankie," (as he called him) and Vernon Wright, a

soldier also from St. Paul, were "the point," sent out to make contact with the enemy.

"The first place we went they had just left. We could smell them; there was a certain smell from the food they cooked." The cooking odors were coupled with the smells of unwashed bodies and perspiration in the jungle heat, he added. "They could smell us, too."

The trio followed the Japanese until dark, and camped for the night. "It poured like a son of a gun." The rain wasn't unusual, he added: "we were always wet."

When they returned to camp, their own troops mistakenly shot at them. Thompson said a bullet grazed his head, but he wasn't seriously injured.

On the island, "the Japanese had dug trenches. They had the fire power to keep you away," Thompson said. Eventually, however, the Americans, armed with bazookas and flame throwers, prevailed.

He spoke of watching a big Navy battle at night, which he and Frank watched from the island. "It was right out there [off the coast], like it was a movie. The sky was lit up all night. Twenty-five ships were sunk in all."

Australia, New Zealand and Fiji sent troops to help the Americans on Guadalcanal rout the Japanese troops. The natives who lived on the island, he added, ran into the jungle when the fighting started. Eventually, the tide turned in favor of the Americans.

"We starved them all out. We kept the Japanese from bringing in any supplies."

The island had several streams that ran to the ocean, he said. "There were many Japanese bodies floating in the water."

The Americans also suffered heavy casualties: "there was only a third of us left. We went on three ships and left on one. The

Godava: "If we don't get these stories down, we'll lose them."

rest had died, were sick, or had been wounded."

After the island was in American hands, the division was sent to Bougainville on Christmas day, 1943 and then the Philippines a year later, also on Christmas, 1944. Frank was sent home on May 1, 1945, and Thompson was discharged a month later.

"It took me a month to get home. We were sent to San Francisco, to Angel Island, right next to Alcatraz. We took all our clothes off and they checked us for diseases.

"Then they told us how to treat civilians and stuck us on trains. It took me four days to get across the country."

Thompson's wife, Virginia, said her husband was so disoriented when he got home that he took a streetcar to Minneapolis, instead of St. Paul.

Their families barely recognized them when they came home because both had lost a great deal of weight; Frank went in weighing 140 pounds and came out at 120.

Thompson went from 126 pounds to 116. Also, their skin color had changed because of the atabrine pills they took for malaria.

"We used to take quinine, but the Japanese took over Borneo, where the quinine came from," Thompson said. "Then they gave us atabrine, which turned your skin yellow. That's how they could tell if you weren't taking the pills.

"They said they'd court marshal us if we didn't take them. A lot of kids threw them away, though; they were bitter-tasting."

Despite the pills, both men caught malaria; Thompson has been hospitalized for it three times.

Thompson said about 40 Twin Cities men served in the 164th; only 12 are still alive.

The new memorials

John Godava, who is 10 years

younger than Frank, did not fight in World War II; he served in the Navy during the Korean Conflict. He owned Don and John's Skelly Service Station at 40th Avenue NE and Sixth Street in Columbia Heights, 1955-1985. He later worked for Anoka County, and retired in 1998.

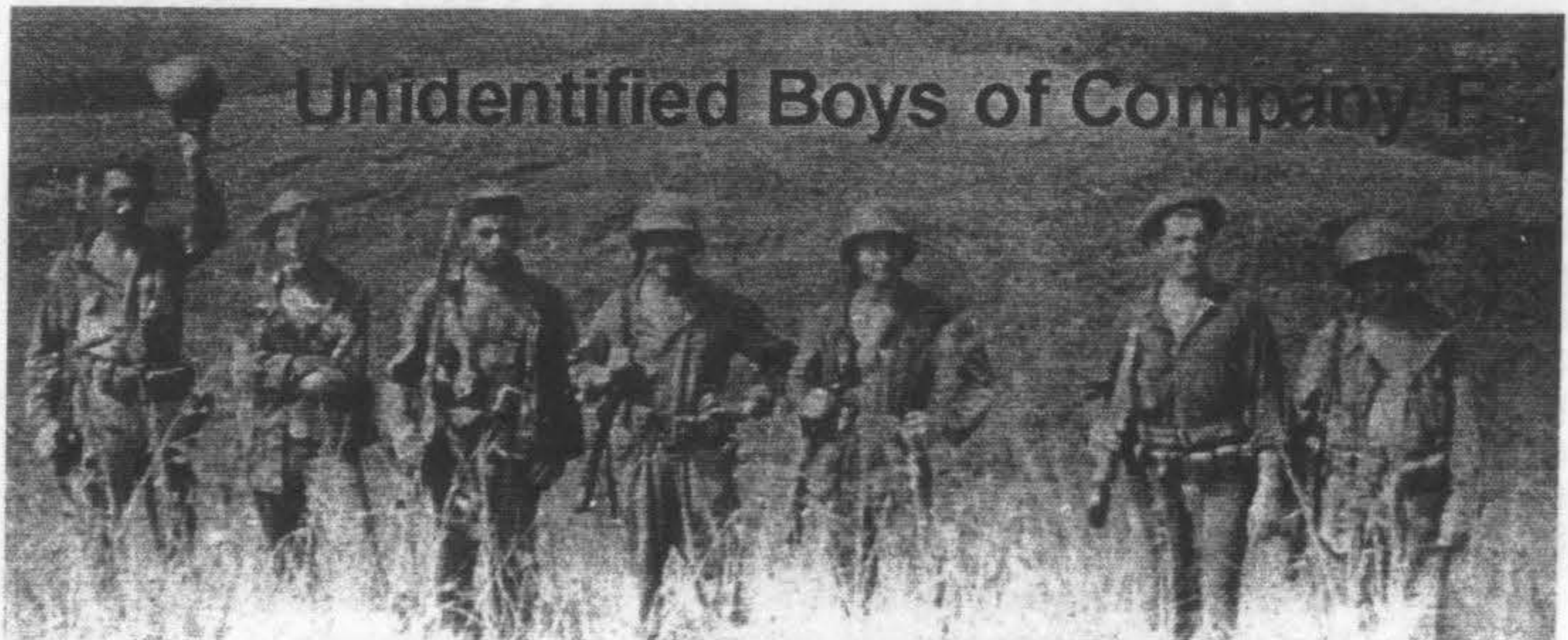
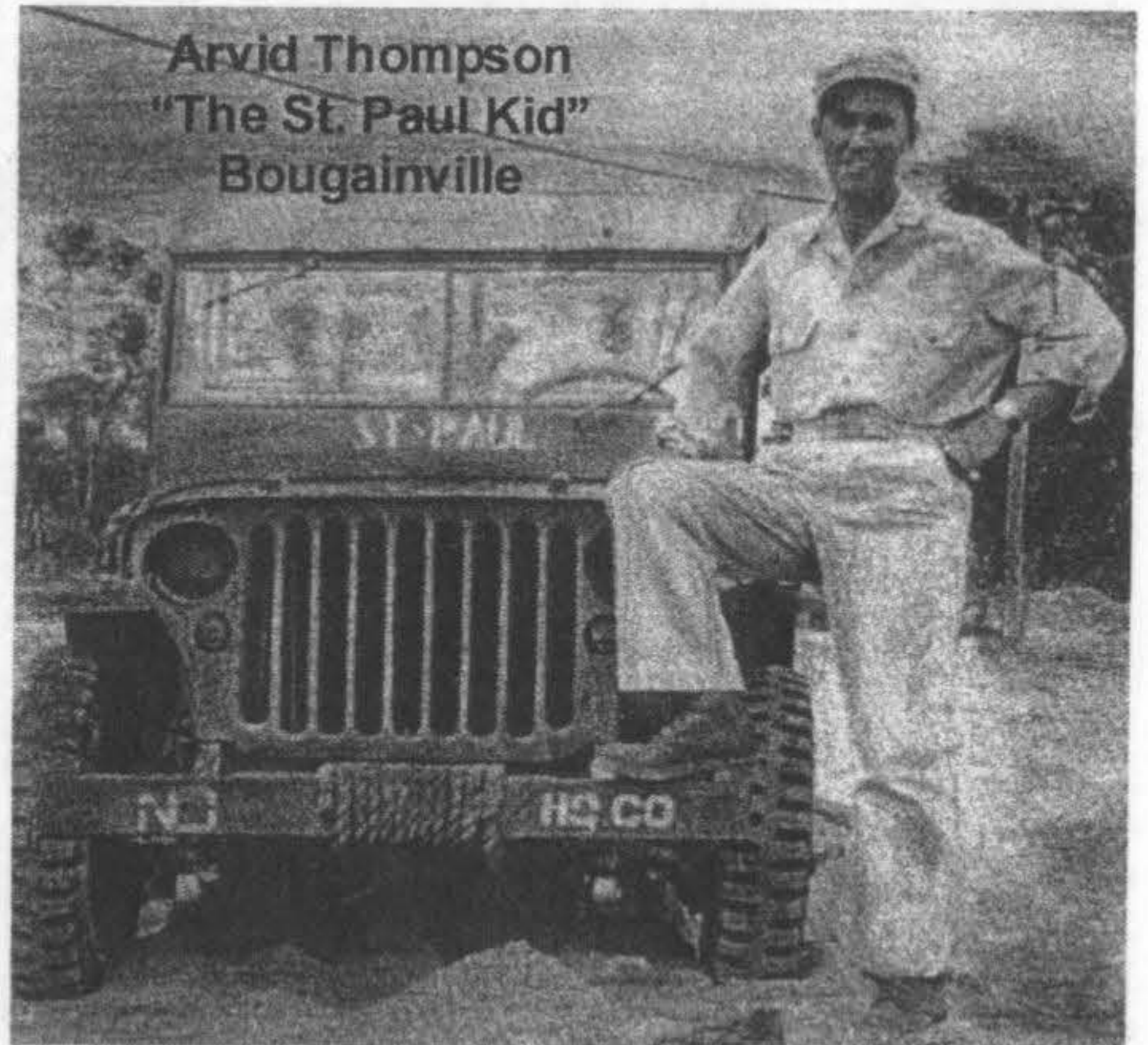
John said he thinks a lot of people are remembering the veterans now, adding that Tom Brokaw's book, "The Greatest Generation," published in 1998, got a lot of publicity and many citizens are erecting memorials around the country.

(Currently, politician Robert Dole is proposing one at the National Mall at Washington DC at the Rainbow Pool.)

"People didn't really do a lot for those servicemen when they came back," Godava said. "Maybe it's a guilty conscience. But we're losing so many of these servicemen every year that if we don't get the stories down, we'll lose them."



Front - Ray Clarts, Ingvald Eide, Arvid Thompson
Middle row - Vern Wright, Herman Maturi, Les Grue, Harold Bergerude
Rear - Jerry Scott, Evans, Roman Weptland, Les Grue



POSTINGS ON THE AMERICAL WEBSITE

Editor: The Americal Website has numerous postings of people looking for someone who knew their relative ...seeking information because "he never talked about the war". Below are some of the people I've found while trying to help determine if the relative concerned was a soldier in the 164th.



I'm wondering if there are any among your crew who remembers **PFC Frank A. (Artichoke or Chokie) Petrucci**?? He was a sniper and served at **Guadalcanal, Leyte Gulf, and Bougainville**. He trained at Camp Roberts and shipped out of San Francisco to the Pacific Theater in 1942. Any help would be appreciated. Frank was my uncle and godfather. Attached is a 1949 photo of him at my parent's wedding. Sincerely, **Mr. Dee Hester**, Box14936, Scottsdale, AZ 85267 ddh26@cox.net



Since I posted in Sept, I have found out that my uncle, **2LT Thomas E. "Billy" Clark**, was in the **132 Infantry**. The book **"Orchids in the Mud"** listed my uncle & the 14 men who died with him while they were on patrol in **Bougainville**, 7 Apr 44. This book has lots of names, how a lot of them died, and accounts of maneuvers & battles. *I guess there is a kind of closure when you can see in print what happened & that a person really mattered.* It would be great to have a message in your newsletter, if possible. Maybe someone knew him or has pictures etc.

Karen Edgerton, PEDG5248@aol.com

My brother was **Earl Houchell**, who served in the Army and was wounded on **Bougainville** in WWII. His records were destroyed in a fire. I am looking for information about him. He passed away in 1999. Gerry Houchell; 513-793-1789 ghouchell1@fuse.net
Editor: turns out Earl was assigned to the **117th Engr Bn, 37th Infantry Division, XIV Corps**

On the Americal Locator, there was a posting from **R. Reid** looking for **PFC Hal Bender, Co B, 121 Med Bn**. On the Americal Guestbook, (a different link than the Locator) there was posting from **Harold Bender, 121 Med**, looking for anyone from the original Americal Div. I emailed both of them, 3 times, with different subject lines so that at least one of them wouldn't be filtered as "junk email". When Reid contacted me, I had a possible phone # for Bender. The guys contacted each other on 16 Feb 07. Both sent emails saying "Thanks a Million!"

And, speaking of finding People... Here's a Short Story From President Bernie:

I had the honor of representing the 164th Infantry Association at **Woody Keeble's recognition night** at the University of North Dakota [in January]. It was an outstanding evening. In my remarks, I made mention that I had a soldier by the name of **Clifford Thompson** in my Platoon on **Guadalcanal and Bougainville** and he was a good friend of Woody's. Later Cliff became the Chief of Police at Fort Totten Indian Reservation at Devils Lake, ND. During the program I was handed a note written on the inside of an envelope stating, **"I am Jake Thompson, son of Clifford Thompson"**. We made eye contact and I looked him up after the program and met him, Cliff Thompson's Widow, and Jakes family. Since then I have been in contact with Jake by phone and we have made plans to visit in the future.

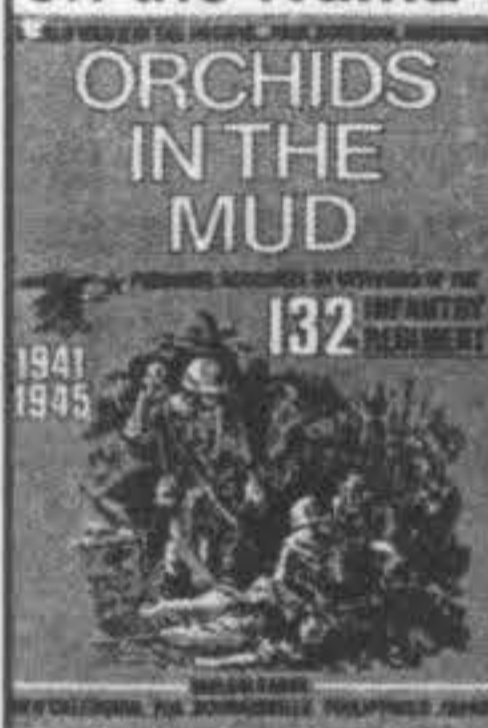
Editor's Note: Photographs of the 164th's Woodrow Wilson Keeble, along with some of his military gear, have been placed on permanent display at Engelstad Arena, University of North Dakota, Home of the Fighting Sioux athletic teams. The nomination for Keeble's posthumous Medal of Honor is still awaiting approval at Secretary of Defense level.

Coming in July... **"Here's Your Infantry"**
Bond Campaigning in the U.S.
from Dennis Ferk's memorabilia collection

"10 Minutes to Wapner" --Dustin Hoffman, Rainman

The great-nephew of **Robert Eleazer** posted that Robert served in **Co I in Bougainville**, and that his Plt Ldr was a Lt **Wapner**. I emailed to ask if he knew which Regiment, so he asked Robert and found out it was the **132nd**, with the additional information that his Platoon interrupted a Japanese supply line. I had just bought the **132nd** book, based on the advice from 2lt Clark's niece (left), and looked up **Company I**:

"Orchids in the Mud": Personal Accounts by Veterans of the **132 Infantry Regiment** edited by Robert C. Muehrcke. Page 313-314 describes an attack on the Japanese roadblock on the **Numa-Numa Trail**. **Co K** was to cut a trail and attack



southwest, and **Co I**, commanded by Capt Robert Manning was to attack northeast...The terrain was solid jungle; very little sunlight reached the jungle floor. The company moved forward skidding and sliding on the dense jungle overgrowth on the steep and treacherous terrain. The patrol was quiet...no one talked, no one smoked. Suddenly the **1 Co** scouts broke through the heavy jungle into a clearing, where they found elaborately

prepared and relatively new and unguarded Japanese pillboxes. Capt Manning called his officers together to discuss plans to occupy these fortifications. **2nd Lt Joseph A Wapner**, 1st Platoon Leader, led his platoon into the enemy pillboxes...and discussed his fight plan with [his sergeants]. Following breakfast on an opposing hill, the unsuspecting Japanese came back to occupy their positions. **Co I** delivered a devastating sheet of fire. The Japanese were completely surprised and disorganized. It took them a few minutes to organize and attempt to retake their positions...

The nephew wrote back: "thanks for the info. I remember him telling me that he was on a ridge while he was scouting on the numa numa trail and his helmet falling off. The Japanese didn't hear it, but now I know what he was talking about."

The book further identifies Lt Joseph Wapner as... yes, the retired California Supreme Court Justice who starred on "The People's Court". I found his celebrity address on the internet & suggested the nephew write to him. I'm waiting to hear...



Some of the testimonials on this page show the value of a book that documents the history of a military unit. Contribute to **"I Am Ready"**, the book about *Your* unit!



MEMORIES FROM ZANE EDISON JACOBS, Co E

Left, Jacobs in 1946. Below, Jacobs & wife of 55 years, Gloria Angeles Jacobs, in 2006, near their home at 2075 Mariposa St, Seaside, CA 93955-3316.

Zane stayed in the Army after WWII, took a 2 year break, then switched to the Navy, retiring in 1969 with 23 years service. He sent in his dues and a donation, and had a comment about the article on page 14 of the October 2006 issue of the News:



One of the articles caught my eye, that being a request for info about PFC Parenteau, Co. B. I have never heard of the man before but the circumstances described in the article makes me aware of different attitudes in different Companies and Battalions during the Southern Philippines Operations. The particulars of Parenteau's body being left behind are extremely sparse. It sounds like his platoon was under fire at the time which was used as a reason for not recovering his body.

My Platoon Sgt. was named Jack Kachel whom I found out in the early 1990's had passed on by the time I became aware of ADVA. At a platoon briefing by Jack on Cebu it was emphasized we never leave wounded or dead behind.

In the mid 1960's I became interested in Genealogy and by the mid 1970's or some 30 years after the Action on Negros the spring of 1945 I was composing a rough outline of my earlier lifes events. I will paste a brief abstract of one small part of the bio material on my own life below showing Jack's policy.

Written from Memory over 30 years after the event happened. ZEJ

"My Battalion (2nd) landed a couple of miles north of the Dumagete airport and the 1st Bn landed south of the city. Tanks approached Dumagete from both directions while the Infantry made a pincer movement to cut off escape of the Jap troops to the west.

We had verbal orders to shoot first and ask questions later.. By late afternoon we had reached a point due west of the city and set up a perimeter across the road that led west into the hills. About midnight three trucks loaded with Jap soldiers came through the ambush. The city side of the perimeter waited till one or two of the trucks had entered our surround then opened up with heavy .30 caliber machine guns. We opened up when the trucks passed through the west side of the ambush. We stopped all 3 trucks and next morning counted 18 to 20 dead Japs. We took no casualties..

B. BATTLES AND CAMPAIGNS	
Southern Philippine Islands Campaign	
C. DECORATIONS AND CITATIONS	
Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon	Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one star
World War II Victory Medal	Combat Infantryman, 11 Jun 1945.

A few days later my squad was point for the Company. We were going up a ridge and near a knob we got hit by a Nambu ambush.(a Nambu was a Jap .25 Caliber Machine gun). Lazono was point scout. He dived across an opening in the underbrush which had been made earlier by an artillery burst. I was right behind Lazono. A bullet cut across his forehead and temporarily blinded him. We never seen him again after we got off the hill and he went to an aid station. A big tall Texan named Hale was our forward BAR man. (BAR was our .30 Caliber Browning Automatic Rifle). He stepped into the opening and opened up on the Nambu position. He had a good shot up the hill about 50 yards and stopped the Nambu for a couple of minutes till the dead gunner was replaced. The new gunner cut loose a few rounds and caught one of our men, shattering his ankle joint. We never saw him again after he went to the aid station. Hale took out the second gunner, then carried the ankle shot buddy down off the hill.

During the next 15 or 20 minutes that seemed like eternity, we took fire from the Nambu and worst of all, one of our water cooled .30 caliber heavy machine guns about 700 yards down the hill started firing to give us cover. He dropped fire into our position a few times. (Friendly Fire).

During those hectic minutes, a seasoned veteran of other campaigns, Utah Christopher, from Oklahoma, panicked. He scooted around the hill till he came upon me. He was scared and said he was going back down off the hill. I was located about 15 yards below the Nambu by that time and below its line of fire. When the gun fired bursts I could tell he was depressed as low as possible and was shooting 3 or 4 inches above me from the way the grass and brush was cut and fell from the bullets. I told Chris to calm down and we might figure some way to get through the brush without being seen and wipe out the gun. Chris did not buy this and eased down the slope. That raised him into the line of fire and within a couple of minutes after he left me, I heard the Nambu sweep another burst of fire that caught Chris. The brush and grass must have given his position away as he moved through it. I heard the bullet hit Chris and heard him die. Didn't take long.

About 10 minutes later, Jack Kachel came around the other side of the hill. He or the heavy .30 knocked out the Nambu. Jack asked me if I knew where Chris was located. I asked about Gower, 'a BAR man named who I thought had also been hit. He had gotten down OK. We had dropped about a hundred yards off the hill, but Jack said we would have to go back up and get Chris as we never left dead or wounded. I was not anxious to go back but I was the only one who knew where Chris was located so Jack and I went back up to carry him down. Chris had taken a .25 caliber round through his chest from right to left and the left was a gaping hole big enough to put a fist through. I knew he had died fast because of the sounds he made after being hit. "

Trail County Veterans Memorial



These photos were contributed by **Filmore Hammargren (LM)(K), Co L, 32266 Virgo St NE, North Branch, MN 55056**

Here's is a picture of Veterans Memorial on the Trail County courthouse lawn at **Hillsboro, ND, former home of Company L, 3rd Battalion, 164th Infantry Regiment.**

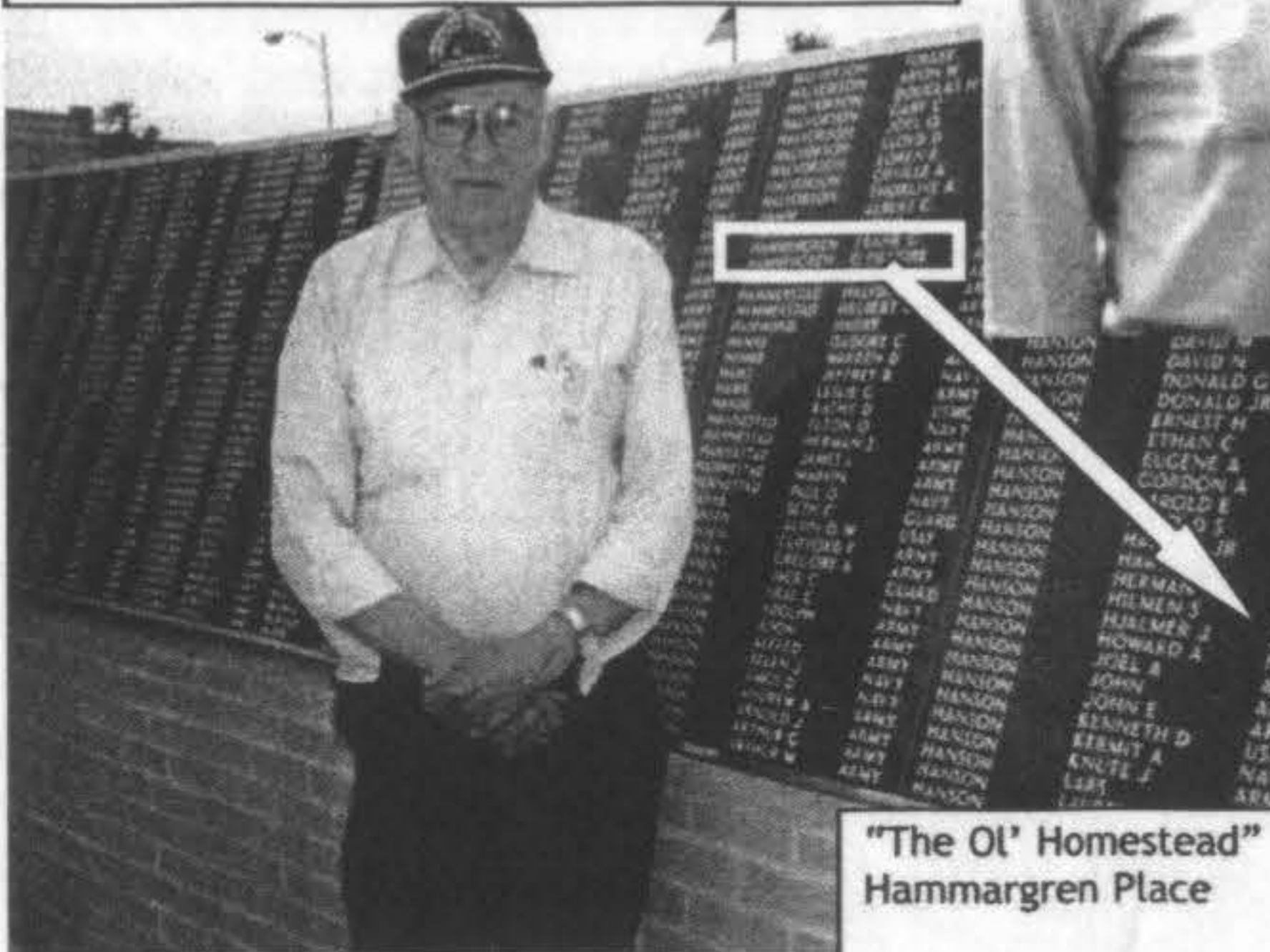
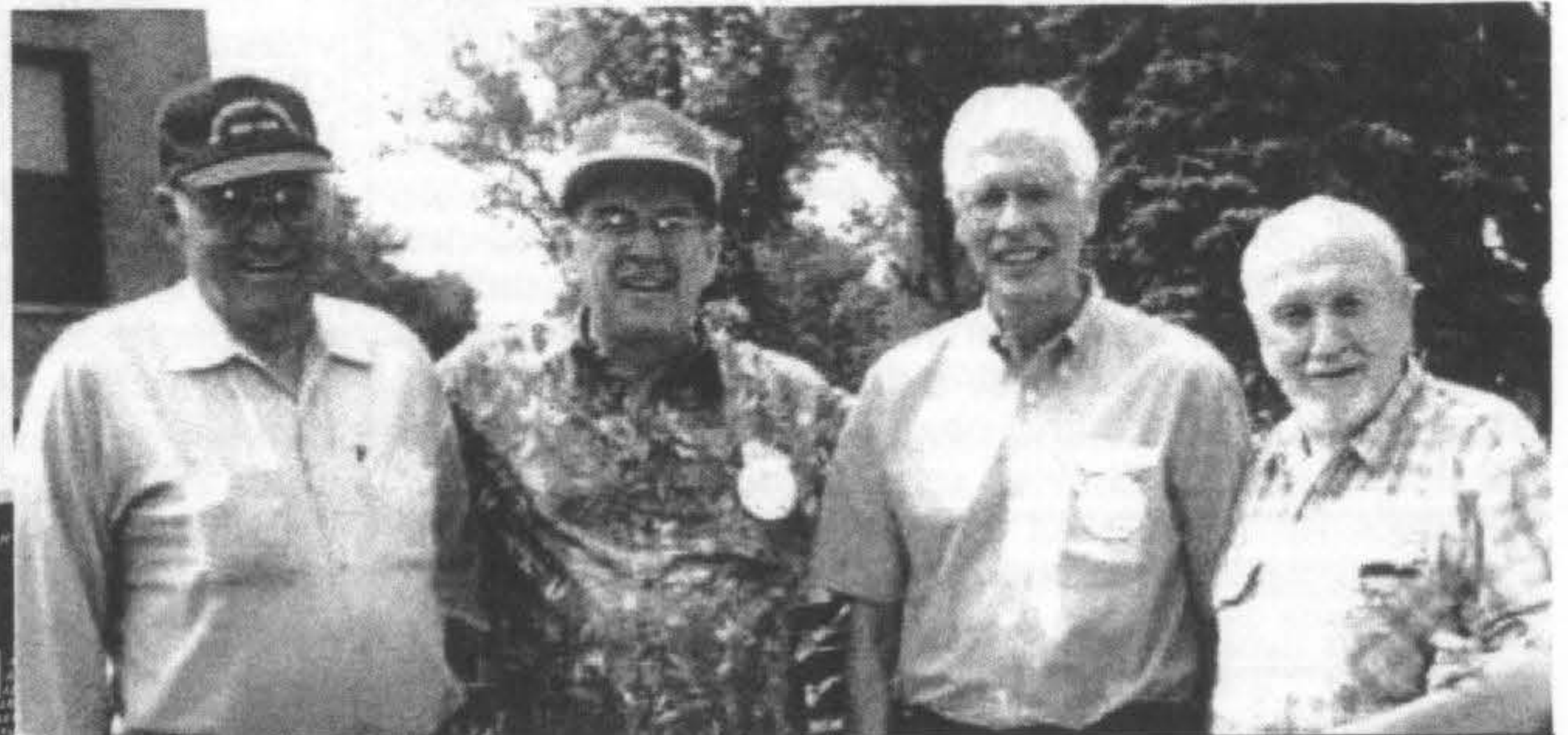
The courthouse is over 100 years old and is on the National Register of Historic Places. The Veterans Memorial structures were dedicated 30 June 2006.



“Dedicated to all who served”

The Trail County Veterans Memorial was built to honor all Trail County military service men and women who have served in all branches of our armed forces beginning with the Civil War.

Company L Korean era veterans at the Dedication Ceremony (L-R) Filmore Hammargren, Paul Steen, Terry Overmoe¹, & Ray Haltli. Also attending were Art Havde¹, Ray Steffans, Arnie Gilbertson, & Duane Anderson [¹not members!]



Left, Filmore stands beside the slate that includes his name as well as that of his father, **Frank**, who trained in Georgia for **World War I**. The war ended just as his active army unit was preparing to deploy.

**HAMMERGREN FRANK G ARMY
HAMMERGREN G FILMORE ARMY**

SSgt Hammargren served as Cadre at Ft Rucker, AL, giving training and classes to new troops, from Jan 51 to Sep 52.

**“The Ol’ Homestead”
Hammargren Place**



Filmore Hammargren

32266 Virgo St. N.E.
North Branch, MN 55056
cell: 763-229-2437
763-689-4885




The bright orange Allis-Chalmers (right) is one of ten vintage tractors in Hammargren’s collection.

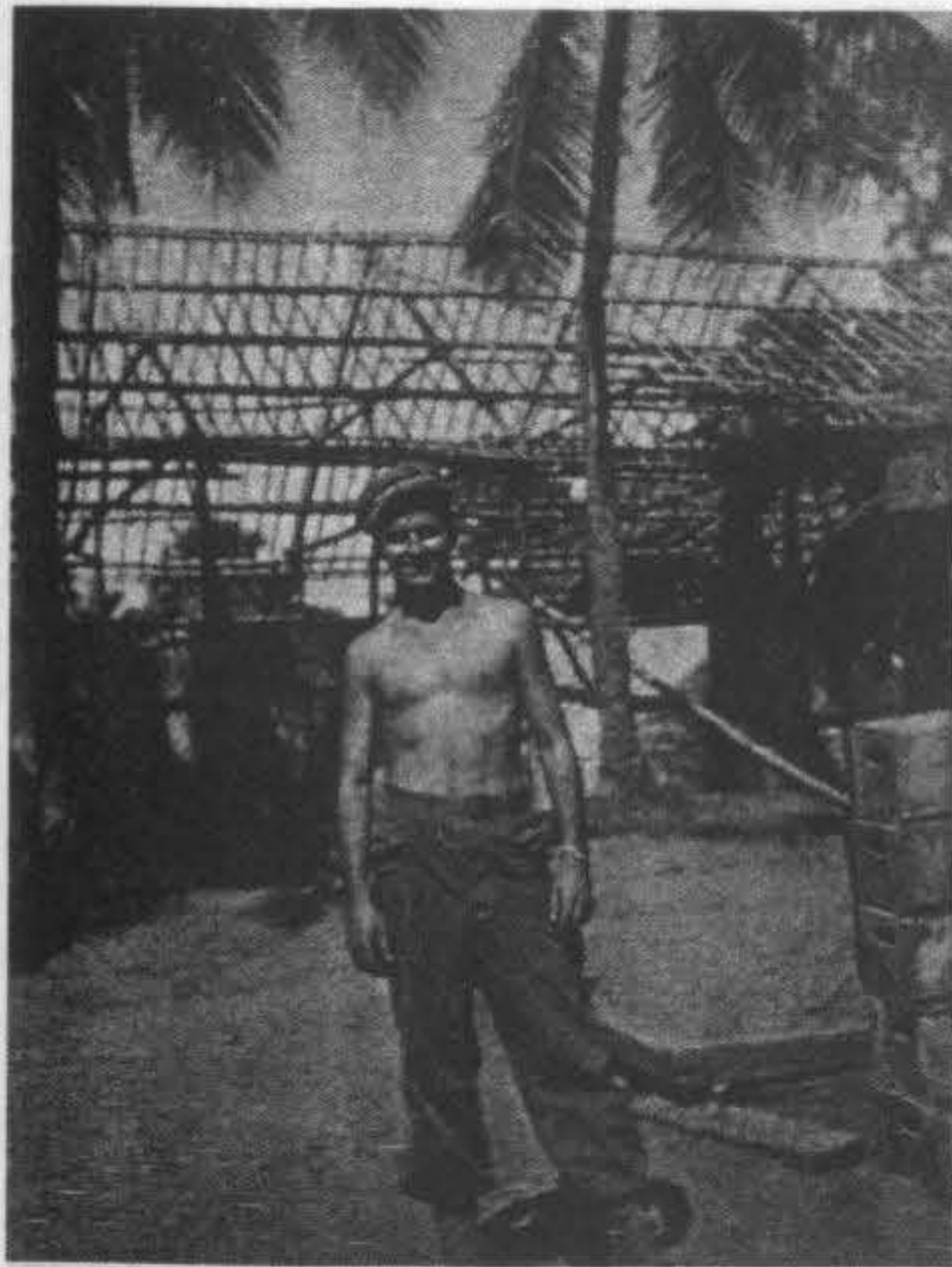
Photo Memories from Paul Dickerson, Co A



The photo at left shows a patrol returning to the unit area, Bougainville, 1944. The whole company went out to hunt for Japanese and stayed out overnight. They turned up one sick or wounded Japanese soldier who was left behind when they left a very crude makeshift hospital in a hurry. From front to rear: Buriel "Abe" Watkins, Henry "Tex" Schwettman, Charles "Chaz" Brewer, Ernie Tolliver (a guess), Ralph Amiel, Donald Fripl, Joe Emil, Russ Henkel



Editor: I couldn't help but notice the similarity in the photo at left and the watercolor (above) by 164th artist Doug Burtell (LM), so I chose this opportunity to feature it. This is one of a number of pieces of art that Doug provided for possible use on the 164th Infantry Memorial Highway interpretive panel. Take a look at the centerfold of the Oct '06 issue to see which one we used! I'll find a place for more of his sketches in future issues. Doug's address is 1102 Sunset Ct, Bowman, ND 58623



T-5 Paul Dickerson Building a mess Hall on Cebu. Never got finished because they left and went to Japan



Paul Dickerson
May, 2006



*1944 on Bougainville
PFC Paul Dickerson was runner for Sgt. Don Stevens*



Don Stevens at the '05 Reunion

Unfortunately, the names in the unit photo (right) were not listed in order.



From the Dec. '89 News



Paul E Dickerson
1630 E Maple St NW
North Canton, OH 44720

Gaby B. Pounds
Robert Radune
Emil Rahn
Ernie Tolliver
William Berndt
Erwin Ventsch
Emil Schock
Leslie Balerud
Bob Well
Ted M. Niec
Merwine Bokelmann
Byron Burdette
John Tuff

Buriel Watkins
Bill Tillotson
Magnus Olson
E.L. "Huey" Miller
John Monzelowsky
Willard Swift
Ken Schauss
Lucas Allex
Mel Shirley
Butch Gjesvold
Ray Patton
Tony Sturn
Alfred A. Brown

Orville Howe
Harold Krause
Malcom Anderson
Wally Johnson
H.O. McAdow
Dennis Ferk
Don Stevens
George Christenson
Harold Caya
Gil Shirley
Gene Brinkman
Walter Hickey
Paul E. Dickerson

DUES, NEWS, & VIEWS FROM MEMBERS & FRIENDS

11 Oct : Dear Ben—enclosed is \$10 for dues and \$10 for the newsletter. We all enjoy it. “Thank You” to you (Ben) and Shirley and anyone else who contributes so much for our enjoyment. My grandson, Ryan Nielsen, has completed a year in Baghdad, Iraq, and is not back in Germany. He will fly to his home in Olympia, Wash, for Christmas and I will be there to greet him and enjoy his leave time. Also, he has re-enlisted for 6 more years. He will be a career soldier. His grandpa John would have been so very proud! I know that I am. May you and yours have a wonderful New Year. May God richly bless you. Your Friend, **Edie Tuff***, 212 8th Ave W #109, W Fargo, ND 58078

13 Oct: Bernie, Thanks to all concerned for your hard work making the Reunion a great time. Also, Bernie, thanks for the thoughtfulness and visit we had.

Shirley, you do a wonderful job on the newsletter. It's great. Here's is a picture of Veterans Memorial, on the Traill County courthouse lawn at **Hillsboro, ND, home of Company L, 3rd Bn, 164th Reg't.** [See Pg 16] Do you have Americal address? I would like it. Does anyone know **Cpl Dave Insheep**, Longmont, Colorado? He was a **Medic** attached to **L Co.** Here's a check for Associate Life Membership for my daughter, Cathy Ann. Sincerely, **Filmore Hammargren (LM)(K)**, Co L, 32266 Virgo St NE, North Branch, MN 55056

Editor: *The Address for the Americal Division Veterans Association (Adjutant) is P.O. Box 830662, Richardson, TX 75080. The new Editor of the Americal Newsletter is Gary L. Noller, 1662 Landmark Rd S, Kerrville, TX 78028. The website: www.americal.org.*



Ms Patricia Drong: Enclosed please find a check for \$10 dues and \$15 for the *164 Infantry News* which I look forward to getting. Thank you. I keep in touch with **John Juvinal (M)**, **Neil Tennyson (LM)**, and the wives of the **Hoff boys (Don & Bob)**. I would like to hear from any **Headquarters Company** Radio guys or wives who are still around. Here's a picture of me in 1944 at Bougainville. I loved my company and I am proud of my Bronze Star and Combat Infantry Badge. **Janus Acampora**, 24 Inverell Dr, Toms River, NJ 08757-5944, Ph 7323-244-4255



20 Nov 06 Editor: Enclosed is my check (dues) for the *164th Infantry News*. I am so honored that I can receive this paper, and I read it several times, then pass it to my family. Thank You, **Bev A. Bjerketvedt***, 602 Hipple Ave, Henning, MN 56551-4116

11 Oct: Shirley, Keep up the good work. Thank you. (Enclosed \$100 for the *News!*) **Crescencio “C.R.” Cruz (LM)**, 3331 Wade St, Los Angeles, CA 90066 Editor: *Mr C has phoned a couple of times with some interesting stories. I'm hoping his son Michael will help him get some photos and documents together for a “Memories..” Page.*

11 Nov 06 Dear Shirley, I found the Oct 2006 issue of the *164th News* very interesting. The [Helsper] photo on page 15 titled “my squad on Bougainville” was actually my



squad, too. With the exception of one man, I recognized all the men in the group as I also was a member of this squad in “K” company. I know for a fact that Weisgerber and Seas are no longer with us, but if any of the others are still around, I would like to hear from them. If they don't recall me, I joined them in Fiji in June of 1942 and left the *164th* from Japan in October 1945. Sincerely, **Martin Broudy**, 3000 NW 42 Ave – B401, Coconut Creek, FL 33066, 954-979-2140 Editor—*none of the people in the picture are current members of the Assoc.*

Editor: *Mr Bjornstad got a copy of the October News with pages missing, so I sent him a couple of replacements and asked him for photos or stories. Here's his reply:*

13 Nov 06 Dear Shirley O: Thank you for sending me copies of the newsletter complete with all the pages. I thought the page on **Ben Kemp** was especially interesting. I'm sorry I don't have any pictures to send. I lost mine in a house fire years ago. As for interesting stories, I never did anything heroic. I was in the **S-2 section** and was left behind on outpost duty when the rest of the troops were moved over to re-enforce the Marines and were credited with preventing the recapture of **Henderson Field** by the Japanese. After the second night's assault, the Marines were firing their **72mm artillery** in front of the lines and traversing left. One shell hit the top of a tree near my position and I caught a ¼ inch by 1 inch shell fragment on top of my shoulder, that ripped through my back muscle and lodged next to my spine. I was evacuated by DC-3 and put on a hospital ship for New Zealand and missed the rest of the Guadalcanal campaign. About four months later, I returned to Guadalcanal and found the *164th* ready to move out to go to **Fiji** for R&R. When it came time to re-board the ship, some of the men were so weak they could not make it up the landing net carrying their gear, so I would climb down and release their pack and rifle and carry it aboard for them. After R&R on Fiji, our next stop was **Bougainville**. I am enclosing a check for \$10 (dues) to get the *News*. Continue the good work. Thank you. **Harold Bjornstad**, 31707 Oakville Rd, Shedd, OR 97377

1 Oct 06 Dear Pat and members of the *164th Assoc*: What a nice surprise to receive the **\$164 check** from the **Reunion Drawing!** Thank you to all. I'm enclosing a check for \$25 for the newsletter or whatever. I'm sure that **Ralph R** is smiling down on us! Sincerely, **Jane Rothrock***, 13101 Delmonte Dr #279L, Seal Beach, CA 90740

4 Dec 06 Enclosed is a check for 2007 dues and \$15 for the *News*. I very much enjoy reading the *164th Infantry News*. **Ralph H. Lenzmeier**, Master Sgt (Ret), (K)(V), 2003 North Arabian Lp, Payson, AZ 85541

Got Pictures? Send them to the *News!!*

DUES, NEWS, & VIEWS FROM MEMBERS & FRIENDS

4 Oct Dear Pat. I joined the Association about a year ago when Ben introduced me to it. I have now received the *News* for a year and have just completed reading the last issue from front to back. I consider this publication a "true gem", thanks to the input of the members of the Association and to Shirley O. I joined the ND National Guard way back on 17Sep53, when I was a junior in high school. My unit was **Hq&Hq Co, 164th Infantry, Bismarck.** **Capt Ken Landers** was the CO and **MSG Elmer Op** was the AST. I stayed with the Guard until 1965. I enjoyed my service and all of the men (at that time). In 1975, I reenlisted in the Guard, then transferred to the Army Reserve. There is a lot more history to my 30 years service, but I remember my service with the Guard with fond memories. I am enclosing my check for \$50 for a Life Membership. Pat, you have moved into a pair of very big shoes (those of Ben Kemp), and I wish you a lot of luck. To Shirley, keep up the great work with the *News*.

John L. Jacobsen, 330 Central Ave, Bismarck, ND 58501
Editor: Yes, there is more to his 30 years...and beyond. John attained the rank of Colonel as a Pharmacist in the USAR and served in Desert Storm. After retiring from the military, he has held numerous local, district, and state positions in the VFW; served as State Veterans Legislative Officer; and held the protocol rank of Major General as the ND Ambassador for the Chief, Army Reserve.

Dear Bernie & Pat: I enjoyed the reunion. Included are my 2007 dues and some extra (\$15) for the *News*, which I just received today and is great. I am going to Ariz for a great granddaughter's 4th birthday on Halloween. I will be back on Nov 8. (I have voted already). **Owen C. Wallace**, PO Box 307, Fessenden, ND 58438

Dear Newsletter staff: I look forward to each issue of "*The 164th Infantry News*", reading it from cover to cover. Thank you to all who work on it. (\$15 donation to *News*) **Dolores Hoff***, 923 Bradley Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701

Hey Guys & Girls: Here's my '07 dues—and \$20 for whatever you wish. Let's pray for the continued blessing by God of our great and wonderful country. Thanks for your hard work and the newsletter!. Blessings, **Alys (Mrs Art) Larson***, 1100 Meadowbrook Ln, Nampa, ID 83686

Dear fellow veterans: I will be nice to hear news of our division. I look forward to getting the paper. **Fred "Fritz" Klein, (Co C)**, 141 Pine Knoll Rd, Fair Play, SC 29643

Dear Pat: What a surprise to win the **\$164 raffle**. I'm not lucky, but my dad, **Russell Opat**, always was lucky. I think he was actually the winner. He would want you to split the winnings between the reunion committee and the newsletter. I am returning the check to you. Also \$10 for dues, and **\$20 in memory of Donna and Russell Opat**. Thank you for all the work you do to honor soldiers past and present. **Gail Opat***, POBox 11029, Spring, TX 77391

Thanks for keeping the 164th alive and going. **Bernice Lee***, 1536 12th St N, Fargo, ND 58201

Enjoy the newsletter so much. Here's \$15 to help! **Linda Breitenstein***, 1704 NW 65th St, Vancouver, WA 98663

Enclosed is \$15 toward dues and newsletter. I really enjoy it!! I received the March and July newsletters, but not the fall issue—hope you have an extra one you can send me. Thanks very much, **John F. Godava***, USNR, 4337 Royce St. NE, Columbia Hgts, MN 55421. *Editor--issue mailed!*

*Editor: Joe Castagneto and Bill Tucker were looking for Vince Clausen and Ernest Aufero at Christmastime, and contacted me for an update on their addresses. Here's what I heard back, from SGM Joe: Dear Col: I contacted Sparky Aufero in Florida and he informed me that Swede Clausen was now living in a nursing home in Mpls, MN. He gave me contact info for Swede's sister, Lea Cooper 13870 Silverado Ct. NW, Andover, MN 55304 Tel 763-323-4644. She was happy that I called. She told me that Vincent was doing well after he had some problems and had a Pacemaker implanted. \ Lea gave me permission to give this info to you and also to publish it in the *News* and to insert a note to have his buddies wish him well and send him get well cards & greetings. Vincent is at EBENEZER Nursing Home, 2545 Portland Ave, Mpls, MN 55401*

Enclosed is \$10 dues and \$10 for the *News*. I really enjoy reading the *164th Infantry News*. It brings back some great memories and I enjoy reading about fellow soldiers who served in WWII. I am proud to have served in the 164th Infantry and it was an honor to serve with my **Company A** buddies who I still keep in touch with: **Jim Curran (M), Clinton Meche (LM), Paul Dickerson (M), John Creamer (M), Mervin Bokelmann (LM), Byron Burdette (LM), Walter Hickey (LM), Joe Castagneto (LM), Fred Archer, Gene Brinkman, and Francis Byran.** Sincerely, **William H. Dailey**, 1522 E Vineyard Rd, Hayesville, NC 28904

Here's \$15 for the newsletter *In Memory of MSgt "Woody" Keeble, Company I, Wahpeton.* **Earl D. Holly**, 700 W Ave B, Bismarck, ND 58501

Enclosed is a check for dues & \$10 for the paper. I really enjoy reading it & keeping up on Bob's Army buddies, **Donna Todd***, 201 27th Av SE C206, Puyallup, WA 98374

Enclosed is a check for Life Membership for Emil, who recently celebrated his **90th Birthday!!** We have recently found a number of photos of **Company E on Bougainville**. We could use help identifying people. **Emil Blomstrann (LM)(WWII)& Lois**, 32 Foxon Place, New Britain, CT 06053 *Editor: If you know these guys, let me know. You'll see it again, along with more*



Co E pics, in the July 2007 News.

Hi Pat. Enclosed are Life Membership dues. I am doing OK—A bit slower than I used to be. But come spring, I hope to be back to my normal work. I do a lot of recycling and take care of 2 lawns. **Gene Sauer (LM)(K)**, 6424 E. 6th Ave, Spokane Valley, WA 99212

Got email? Contact Editor164InfantryNews@hotmail.com

NEW MEMBERS RECRUITED FROM ADVA!!

The Americal Division Veterans Association publishes *THE AMERICAL*, a very professional news magazine, and maintains an interesting website. Here are some folks who were located through the assistance of the ADVA.

13 Jan 07 I was a Staff Sgt in **Co B**, 164 Infantry, in 1943-44-45, SN 36446515. The only member of Co B that I know, who is still living, is the man I replaced, **Bob Carr**, who lives in California. When I was on **Bougainville** with **Co B**, before we moved to the **Philippines**, there was a platform built in the river in front of our lines. It had 8' and 18' levels and when we were not busy we could go down there and play in the water. On one occasion, I dived off the 8' level and just as I hit the water, something hit me in the back. I'm told another fellow dived off the 18' level and hit me, breaking his neck and I'm told he never recovered. I've never been able to convince anyone that this incident is at least partially the reason I've had back problems all these years. A few years ago, I had problems with my right leg and my doctor sent me to see a chiropractor. After he saw my X-rays, he told me he could fix my leg with 3 treatments, but he asked what happened to my back when I was young. I told him and he said, "It's still there." I'm wondering if anyone is around who witnessed this. Enclosed is a photo taken 8 Sep 45, just a few hours after the 164 arrived in **Japan**. On checking a building, I found the door locked and started to force it when one of the Japanese made a lot of noise. I got an interpreter and he said this was a darkroom. I told him I



would not break down the door if he took a picture of me and my associates. Seated: L-R **Myself**, & **Cpl Edmond Gadzinski**. Standing L-R **PFC Rudy Jaros**, **Sgt Sam Pear**, **2nd Lt Edward J. Wilhelm**, **Cpl Vernon Carlson**. I've lost track of all of them except **Sam Pear** who passed away a couple of years ago in Jerseyville, Ill. Sincerely, **Wm Wayne McDowell**, 901 S 15th St, Mattoon, IL 61938

22 Jan 07 Ms Olgeirson: Thanks very much for the copy of the "164th Infantry News" that you sent to me. I joined the 164th, **Company G**, on **Cebu Island**. **Captain Shedd** was the Company Commander and **Lt Wander** was my platoon leader. I would like to become a member of the 164th Association at this late date in life. Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$20 for dues payment (2 years dues). Thanks again. Yours very truly, **Jack J. Weston**, 1555 Aalborg Ct, Solvang, CA 93463

Contribute to "I Am Ready", the book about the 164. See Page 4.

18 Jan 07 I will be glad to become a life member and receive your *News*. I served with **Company F in Cebu, Negros, and Japan** to 1945. **C. Sherman Gibson**, 1708 Cagua Dr NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110-6614

8 Jan 07 Lt Col Olgeirson: Thanks for you letter and the *164th Infantry News*. I'm a member of the Americal Division Association and have been thinking of joining your association. Enclosed is a photo of **Captain John H. Tuff (R) & me in Mindanao, Philippines, in May 1945**.



Capt Tuff was **Commander** and I was the **1st Sgt** of **Company M**. I noticed the name of John H. Tuff on page 18 of the (Oct 06) *News*. If

it's my former company commander, I would like to hear from him. Also, here is a photo of a Japanese flag picked up while on patrol. The names of officers & men of **Co M** are printed on it. Enclosed is a check for \$20--for the dues and a \$10 donation. **Edward F. Bartz**, 55 Brookwood Dr, Hamburg, NY 14075, email: edbartz1914@webtv.net, phone 716-649-0517. (Editor—I emailed 1st Sgt Bartz with the unfortunate info that Capt Tuff is no longer with us, and the man mentioned in the *News* is his son. I gave him Edie Tuff's address; Bartz said she phoned him and they had a nice, long talk. Watch for the Co M flag photo & list of names in the July 2007 issue!

12 Jan 07 Here's my Life Membership dues and a twenty-dollar donation (wherever you want to use it). **Richard J. Bush**, WWII, **Co F**, 2218 9½ St N, Fargo, ND 58102

LTC O: I have been a member of the Americal Division Veterans Association for several years. I was not aware of the 164th Assoc. until I received your letter and a copy of the *News*. I was a 1st Lt. when assigned as a replacement officer to **Company H**, 164th Infantry Regiment, the last of July 1945 while the unit was on **Cebu**. I was the **Recon Officer** of H Co and went with the unit to **Japan**. I am very interested in your research on awards. I had several awards authorized in my 201 file quoting WD Circulars; however, when I applied to St. Louis for the medals, they were denied. I finished my military career with the 416th Engr Command, USAR, Chicago. The 416th had units in ND, and now under the reorganization, I understand they will come back under the 416th, which was also in Operation Desert Storm. I congratulate you for taking an interest in continuing the history of the 164th Infantry. Enclosed is my check for \$10. Sincerely, **Theodore B. Winters**, LTC, AUS (ret), 3608 Meadow Court, Olympia Fields, IL 60461-1075, phone 708-503-1995

Send your photos/stories to the *News*!

P.O.Box 1111, Bismarck, ND 58502

Or Email: Editor164InfantryNews@hotmail.com

NEW MEMBERS!!

Herbert L Schultz (K), Co E, 12350 48th St NE, Petersburg, ND 58272 (brother of Clarence Schultz (WWII) Anti-Tank)
 Col (ret) Ralph Wood (K), Co M & Svc Co, 4566 Cherry St, Grand Forks, ND 58201
 Wm Wayne McDowell (WWII), Co B, 901 S 15th St, Mattoon, IL 61938-5605 [See page 20] [ADVA]
 Edward F. Bartz (WWII), Co M, 55 Brookwood Dr, Hamburg, NY 14075-4301 [See page 20] [ADVA]
 Jack J. Weston, (WWII), Co G, 1555 Aalborg Ct, Solvang, CA 93463 [See page 20] [ADVA]
 Lt Col (ret) Theodore B. Wilson, Co H, 3608 Meadow Ct, Olympia Flds, IL 60461-1075 [See page 20] [ADVA]

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS* (identified by *)

Barry Doe*, USN(Ret), 485 Old Colchester Rd, Uncasville, CT 06382 (son of Maj Frank E Doe, Reg't Hqs) [See Pg 6]
 Bary Pfaff*, 210 Gray Rd, Templeton, MA 01468 (son of Wallace Pfaff, Co G)[See page 7]
 John Etcheverry*, 544 North F St, Lakeview, OR 97630 (grandson of Arthur S Kountz, Co C)[See page 8]
 Margaret M. Kountz*, 1840 Doral Ct, Pahrump, NV 89048-5905 (wife of Arthur S Kountz, Co C)[See page 8]
 William W. Freeman Jr*, SJO 795, POBox 025331, Miami, FL 33102 (son of W. Warren Freeman, Co G)[See page 9]
 Sherry Hilfer*, 154 Boise Ave, Bismarck, ND 58504 (daughter of Oswald Berg, Anti-Tank Co)[See Page 11]
 Dr. Terry Shoptaugh*, 1315 19 1/2 St S, Moorhead, MN 56560 (Historian, Moorhead State Univ) [See page 4]
 MSG (ret) Peter A. Coe*, 823 S 9th St, Grand Forks, ND 58201, former Army Advisor to 231 Engr Bn, ND Army Guard
 Kim Ryan*, PO Box 26, Shasta, CA 96087 (searching for information about her uncle Wayne Gundestrup)

NEW MEMBERS JOINED FOR LIFE!!

Fredrick H. Klein (LM)(WWII), Co C, 141 Pine Knoll Dr, Fair Play, SC 29643-2829
 Richard J. Bush (LM)(WWII), Co F, 2218 9-1/2 St N, Fargo, ND 58102-5061 [See page 20] [ADVA]
 C. Sherman Gibson, (LM)(WWII), Co F 1708 Cagua Dr NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110-6614 [See page 20] [ADVA]
 Cathy Hammargren Wright (LM)*, 35023 Sleepy Valley Rd, Cross Lake, MN 56442 (daughter of Filmore (LM)(K), Co L)
 Col (ret) Charles Wager (LM)*, 4908 Harbor Trail SE, Mandan, ND 58554 (son of Bernie Wagner, Co G)

MEMBERS WHO RENEWED FOR LIFE!!

Col (ret) John Jacobsen (LM), 330 E. Central Ave, Bismarck, ND 58501
 Erling A Dahl (LM)(K) Co G, PO Box 1104, Hettinger, ND 58639-1104
 Lynn M. Kloster (LM)(WWII) Band, 36 Garden Way, Schaymburg, IL 60194
 Richard C Krupich (LM) Co B, 1217 48th Ave S, Fargo, ND, 58104-6438
 Michael C. Beatini (LM) (WWII) Co E, 39 Highland Road, Montvale, NJ, 07645-2013
 Vernon W. Bogner (LM) (WWII) Hqs 3rd Bn, 8610 SW Scoffins St Apt 63, Portland, OR, 97223-6259
 James H. Jarvis (LM) (WWII) Reg't Hqs, 4213 Carpenter Bridge Rd, Felton, DE, 19943
 Ernest F. Aufero (LM) (WWII) Co D, 101 Spring Lake Drive #206, Vero Beach, FL, 32962
 Mrs. John J. (Betty) Miller (LM)*, 1108 South Holladay Dr Apt 35, Seaside, OR, 97139
 Arthur Schmaltz (LM) Co G, 2767 East Street, Niles, MI, 49120
 Dave Winkler (LM) Co G, 1112 Southwest 9th Street, Valley City, ND, 58072
 Emil I. Blomstrann (LM) (WWII), 32 Foxon Pl, New Britain, CT, 06053-2532
 Ray Haltli (LM)(K) Co L, 1039 11th St. NE, Thompson, ND, 58278
 Eugene F. Sauer (LM)(K) Co G, 6424 E 6th Ave, Spokane, WA, 99212-0574
 Herbert Klein (LM), 7605 149th Ave SW, Bowman, ND 58623
 Keith G. Burck (LM), 3702 River Drive, Fargo, ND, 58104
 CW5 Bradley R. Lupien (LM)*, 391 Clydebank Dr, Madison, AL, 35758
 James H. Forsberg (LM)*, 163 Portland Ave, Auburn, CA, 95603

ADDRESS CHANGES

Change: Bryan O. "Bud" Baldwin, (WWII)(K), 749 S 38th St, #107, Grand Forks, ND 58201
 Change: Ervin J. Barta (K), 3015 E. Colorado Dr, Suite D, Bismarck, ND 58503-1617
 Change: Marvin Mauch (LM), 12407 320th Ave, Lowry, MN 56349-4505
 Change: Donna Kjonaas*, 2686 New Century Terrace, Maplewood, MN 55119-6023
 Change: Lawerance Castagneto*, 5405 A Courmet Ct, Ft Polk, LA 71450
 Change: Vincent R Clausen (WWII), Ebenezer Home, 2545 Portland Ave, Mpls, MN 55404-4405
 Change: Roy D Olson, 7900 Timber Lake Dr, Apt 102, Eden Prairie, MN 55347-1162
 Change: Gordon St Claire (WWII), 1035 Roosevelt Ave #214, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
 Change: Gertrude M. Busch, 338 N 31st St Apt 11, Bismarck, ND 58501-5172

THANKS FOR THE DONATIONS!

To News -- To Assoc (italics)	Coffey, Herbert V	\$15	Hammargren, Filmore	\$20	Krejci, Jerome	\$10	Schmalta, Arthur	\$10
Acampora, Janus	Collins, Edward	\$15	Hill, Georgia	\$10	Kurtz, Clifford	10	Shaver, Kenneth	\$10
Baglien, Donald	Cruz, Cresencio R.	\$100	Hinton, Jack	\$5	Larson, Alvs Mae	\$20	Siems, Frederick P.	\$10
Bartz, Edward	Curran, James	\$10	Hoff, Dolores E.	\$15	Lee, Stanley A.	\$15	Smith, Hunter	\$5
Beatini, Michael	Dailev, William	\$10	Hoff, Donna	\$5	Lenzmeier, Ralph	\$15	Thilmom, Norbert A.	\$10
Beilke, Martin	Dodd, Robert	\$15	Holly, Earl	\$15	Massee, Hugh	\$10	Todd, Donna	\$10
Benzinger, John	Ensminger, Walter	\$5	Hopkins, George	\$5	McLaughlin, James	\$30	Tongen, Clair	\$25
Berce, Leonard	Evenson, Donald	\$10	Jacobs, Zane E.	\$15	Oehlke, Ralph	\$5	Trageser, Andrew	\$10
Berntsen, Winifred	Ferk, Dennis	\$25	Johnson, Walter	\$5	Olson, Karen	\$5	Tuff, Edith	\$10
Bjornstad, Harold	Fischer, Thomas J.	\$5	Juvinall, John	\$5	Opat, Gail E.	\$20	Waldhauser, Gerald	\$10
Bogner, Vernon	Freeman, William	\$10	Kane, Noma	\$5	Opdahl, Gerald	\$5	Wallace, Owen C.	\$15
Breitenstein, Linda	Gadomski, Stanley	\$10	Kiker, William	\$5	Pompa, John	\$5	Watkins, Buriel	\$5
Buckingham, William	Godava, John	\$5	Kielstrom, Edain	\$10	Rahn, Edna	\$40	Well, Donald W.	\$10
Bush, Richard	Goodard, Howard	\$10	Kloster, Lynn	\$10	Revers, John J.	\$10	Whitman, Carl	\$15
Castagneto, Joseph	Goodman, Lewis	\$15	Knapp, Charles	\$10	Rothrock, Jane	\$25	Zettler, William	\$10
Castagneto, Joseph	Grande, Pasquale	\$5	Koppang, Alton	5	Scheer, Bernard	\$5	Zimmerman, Duane	\$10

East Roll Call

164th Infantry Regiment

AS KNOWN ON 11 FEBRUARY 2007

Robert E. Evans, (WWII) Co E, 4 Dec 06
 Eino J. "E.J." Kavonius, (WWII) Co A, 29 Nov 06
 Hamlin L. Kjelland, (WWII) Co G, 31 Oct 06
 Richard Salsman, (K) Co F, 10 Nov 06
 Hunter S. Smith, (WWII) Co E, 26 Dec 06
 Howard V. Erickson, 23 Jan 07
 Leo V. Pfaff, Co G, 25 May 06
 Bernard Krisko, 5 Jun 06
 Gordon A. Otteson, 20 Sep 06
 Gerald E. Wright, (WWII) 164 Band, 27 July 04
 Richard Stowall, (WWII) Co G, 7 Jan 07
 Fred W. Axelson, (K) Co G, 29 Jan 07
 J. Harland Pederson, (K) Svc Co, 26 Nov 06
 James P. Grimstad, (K), 13 Nov 06
 LeRoy W. Busching, (WWII) 164 Band, 26 Nov 06
 W. Warren Freeman, (WWII) Co G, 1999, [see Pg 9]
 Arthur S. Kountz, (WWII) Co C, 1 Mar 03 [see Pg 8]



—artwork by Douglas Burtell

Robert E. Evans, 82, passed away 3 Dec 06, at his home in Ohio. He was in **New Caledonia** at the start of the Americal with **E Company, 164th infantry**. He became a member of the 164 Association last year after a friend posted a notice on the Americal website.

Gordon A. Otteson, 75, died 30 Sep 06 in his home in Bismarck. He served with the North Dakota National Guard from 1951 to 1971. He is survived by his son, Guy; and daughter, Nancy Sershen. He was preceded in death by wife, Jean.

E.J. Kavonius, 84, died of post-surgery complications in Nov 06. In early 1941, he joined the Guard's 164 Infantry. He was wounded at **Guadalcanal** and was transferred New Zealand to recover. There, he was assigned to an air corps **bomber squadron** and remained there until returning to the US. He is survived by his children, Greg, Steve, Brian, and Lesly Susan. His wife, Ruth, preceded him in death.

Richard Salsman, Fargo, died 10 Nov 06. He joined the Army in 1945 and was stationed in Japan during the occupation. He joined the ND National Guard and was called to serve during the **Korean War**. He was a 50 year member of the Civil Air Patrol, serving as ND Wing Commander. He is survived by wife of 60 years, Evelyn; sons, Craig & Paul; & daughter, Kim.

Sometimes we can't find obituary information. Please send notices to the Assoc. Secretary or the Editor.



Hamlin L. Kjelland, 87, went home to be with the Lord 31 Oct 06. He joined the National Guard after high school and was called to active duty Dec '41, serving on **Guadalcanal**, and later landing on **Bougainville** on Christmas Day. He was commended by his company commander for his actions there, receiving the **Silver Star**, **Bronze Star**, and **Purple Heart**. He is survived by wife of 59 years, Betty Ann (Uloth), and daughters Suzanne Kjelland and Patricia Lewallen.

II. AWARDS OF THE SILVER STAR:

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bull 43, ID, 1918), a Silver Star is awarded by the Commanding General, United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area, to the following-named enlisted men:

HAMLIN L. KJELLAND, (20711280), Staff Sergeant, Infantry, United States Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy at Bougainville, Solomon Islands, on 29 March 1944. He unhesitatingly took charge of his platoon, after the officer and second in command had become casualties, and displayed outstanding courage and resourcefulness in organizing his men to fight off an enemy attack. His daring and fearless tenacity permitted two scouts to withdraw from an extremely dangerous position. Although wounded, Sergeant Kjelland continued in action, killing two Japanese soldiers during a bayonet charge on his positions. He refused to be evacuated until all his men had withdrawn to safety. His leadership and bravery not only saved the lives of two men but were responsible for the successful completion of the patrol's mission. Home Address: Valley City, North Dakota.

—From the 164 archived files at the Univ of N Dak

Hunter S. Smith, 87, Williston, died Dec. 26, 2006, at his home in Williston. He is survived by his wife, Elva; two sons, Doug and EeJay; & daughter, Wanda Fry. He had sent in a donation to the Association in mid-Dec and said he was having health problems.

More...Last Roll Call



Colonel (ret) Howard V. Erickson 86, passed away 23 January 2007 at his home, after a valiant battle with many health problems. Howard served in the Army during **World War II** and Korea. After arriving home, he continued his military service in the ND Army National Guard, serving as Commander, 188th Engineer Group, Fargo. Howard was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Elks, El Zagal Shrine, Cormorant Lions, & a *Life Member of the 164 Infantry Association*. He was very active in the American Legion, serving as **ND Department Commander** and National Executive Committeeman. He volunteered at the VA Hospital for 30 years. Howard was preceded in death by his wife, Annabelle, and is survived by two daughters, Rita Erickson, Fargo, and Peggy Bender, Bottineau, ND



"In Our Thoughts & Prayers"

Mary Louise Kingston*, 80, Union, WA, died 25 Nov 06. She is survived by children Bill Kingson, Kathy Gordy, & Nancy Wicks. Mary's husband, **Clayton, Co G**, died 2000.

Eliot J. Carey, a dear comrade from the 182nd "**South Pacific Buddies Association**", passed away 24 Sep 06 at age 83. He served for many years at the Sec/Treas of his Association, and corresponded regularly with your Editor. He had an obvious energy and enthusiasm for helping his WWII buddies, and he will be greatly missed.

I'm enclosing an article/obit from the Houston Chronicle regarding a Marine who was at Guadalcanal. Perhaps someone in the 164 knew him. **Gail Opat**

→**Norman "Moe" Moise**, passed away Sep 06 at age 83. He served with the 2nd Amphibian Tractor Battalion at **Guadalcanal**, Tulagi, and Gavutu.

Dear 164: I'm enclosing a note from the family of **LeRoy Busching** that was sent to me since, I guess, I was the oldest on at the table at lunch after the funeral and the daughter took it for granted I was one of the remnants of the **164 Band**. (Had a Dad and 3 uncles in it in **WWI** and one uncle (**Harley**) carried over to be **Top Sgt in WWII**). I had to run down **Owl Stensgard** to find out who was likely to have sent the plant. "Busch" was one of the finest and a credit to the 164. Harry Moore, Fargo, ND

The note: To LeRoy's brothers of the 164 – You were such a special part of Dad's life! He was so proud of the 164. Thank you for the poinsettia plant that you gave in Dad's memory. We are going to miss him very much, even though he'd been ready to go since Mom died. He had a wonderful life, though; with a loving family, great friends, and great music. We were truly blessed to have him, and we have wonderful memories to cherish. God bless. Lori Gefroh & the family of LeRoy Busching.

Dear Editor Shirley, I am the grandson of the late CW4 (ret) **Ewald "Wally" Heisler, (K) Tank Co**, who passed away on July 22nd of this year. Thank you for putting Grandpa in the "Last Roll Call" of *'The 164th Infantry News'* newsletter, October, 2006. My mother (Ewald's daughter), my Grandma Pat (Ewald's wife), and others, noticed some of the other veterans listed in the "Last Roll Call" had information regarding their wives and surviving family members. We're not sure who sent in Ewald's information without surviving family members included, though we did appreciate his "remembering" none-the-less.

Would it be possible to add a sentence or two, in the next newsletter, placed in the "Last Roll Call" or somewhere in the next issue, adding the below specifics? The whole Heisler family would be so happy and appreciative for the addition. Here's what we would like added or somehow noted for Gramps...*Ewald "Wally" Heisler is survived by his wife of 56 years, Patricia, and three daughters: Mary Wanner, Bismarck, ND; Cary Meyer, Rimbeey, AB, Canada; Edna Sailer, Ft. Collins, CO.*

Thank you again...and if I may help you with any more information, write, call, or email Ron Rivinius, 402 N 17th St, Bismarck, ND 58501, rivinius1@hotmail.com

Richard E. "Dick" Stowall, beloved husband of Liberta, and father of Rosemary Roush and Ronald Richard Stowell, was born in Valley City, ND, 15 Sep 20, and departed 7 Jan 07, at age 86. He fought with the 164 Infantry at **Guadalcanal**.

LeRoy W. Busching, 88, Wahpeton, died Nov. 26, 2006, at Bethany Homes, Fargo. He is survived by three sons & three daughters, including Lori Gefroh, Underwood; 15 grandchildren & 5 great grandchildren.



J. Harland Pederson, Devils Lake, passed away 26 Nov 06. He was called to active duty with the 164th at Camp Rucker, AL, and was discharged in 1952 at the rank of Master Sgt (E-7). He is survived by his wife, Marilyn.

Colonel (ret) Jim Grimstad, 81, died 13 Nov 06 at the ND Veterans Home, Lisbon. He entered military service in 1946 with the National Guard at Hettinger, ND, as a Private with the 164th Infantry. In January 1951, he was called to active duty at Camp Rucker, Ala., and flew T-6 aircraft in **Korea** with the **3rd Infantry Division**, 1951-52. Following his release from active duty, he rejoined the Guard, received a commission, and became a full-time technician in the field of aviation. He also excelled in marksmanship. He is survived by wife, Alice, and son, Jerry.

Fred Axelson, 77, passed away 29 Jan 07 in Valley City. He joined the North Dakota National Guard in **Company G** and went to Korea during the war. He was a life member of the Disabled American Veterans & the "Co G 164 Assoc", and was a former member of the 164th Infantry Association. He will be interred at the ND Veterans Cemetery, Mandan.

164 Infantry veterans listed in the Last Roll Call throughout this year will be honored at the Memorial Service at the Annual Reunion, 14-16 Sep 2007



Greetings from your President!

Time keeps moving faster each year.

The Reunion is in the planning stage and the dates are September 14,15,16, 2007.

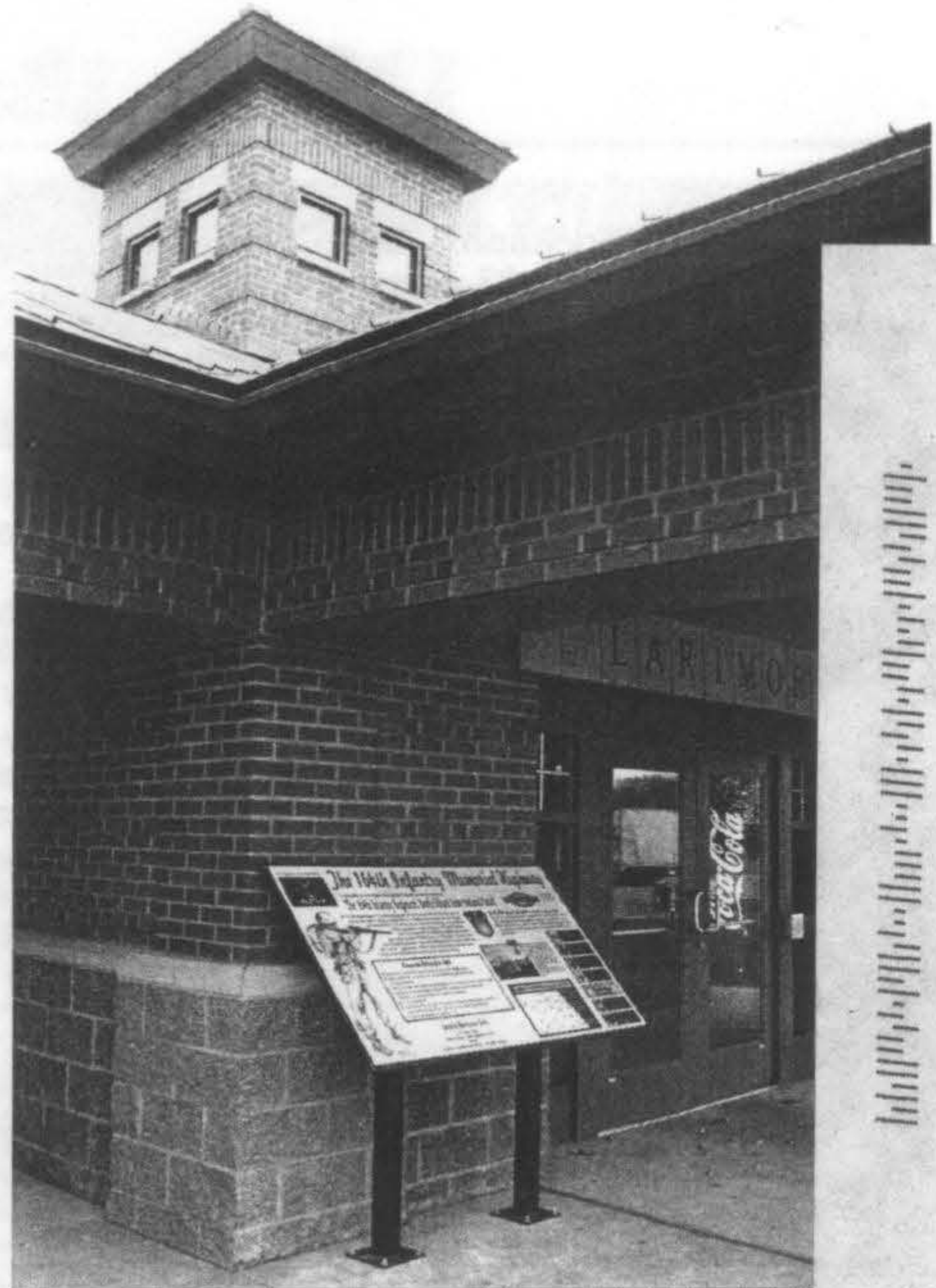
Our membership seems to balance pretty well with the Last Roll Call. Our Editor and Secretary are continuously searching for members and re-signing current members. We certainly appreciate the support that we receive from the ticket sales and your contribution to the outstanding newsletter that our Editor and advisors publish.

Our Highway signs are in place along Highway #2 in North Dakota and the Interpretive panels are installed at the rest areas.

We enjoy hearing from so many of you between reunions, seeking information in regards to your families and friends.

You are invited to join us this Fall at the Annual Reunion for good food, business meeting, and most of all visiting and talking "good old times".

Bernie
Bernie Wagner



A "164th Infantry Memorial Highway" Interpretive Panel installed in a great location at the Larimore Rest Area on US Highway #2 west of Grand Forks.



THE 164th INFANTRY NEWS

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