



7-2006

164th Infantry News: July 2006

164th Infantry Association

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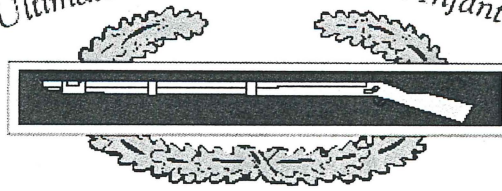
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The Ultimate Weapon the Combat Infantryman



THE 164TH INFANTRY NEWS

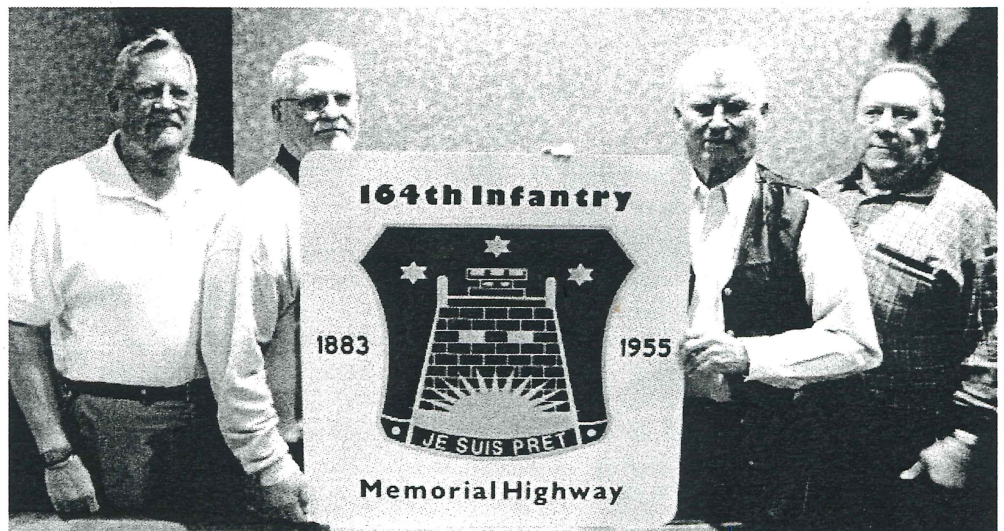
Vol. 47, No. 2

July, 2006

164th Infantry Memorial Highway to be Dedicated During 62nd Annual Reunion

Official dedication of the 164th Infantry Memorial Highway will occur in Valley City as part of the reunion activities! An early plan included a bus ride to US Highway 2 near Devils Lake, but plans have been simplified so the trip will be across the street to the Park, instead of across the state, for the ceremony! In addition to the highway signs, an Interpretive Panel that displays lineage & history of the 164th from 1883-1955 will be on display.

More Highway info on page 5....



Past-Presidents Col (Ret) Vern Fetch and CW4 (ret) Frank Eide, President Lt. Col (ret) Bernie Wagner, and Secretary/Treasurer CW4 (ret) Ben Kemp display one of the road signs that have been placed along US Highway 2 in North Dakota.

164th Soldiers Save Iraqi Teenager

Excerpt of an article By Kent Mathis, Public Affairs, Missouri Army National Guard

IRAQ - On 1 May 2006, two brave Soldiers assigned to Alpha Company, 164th Engineer Battalion from North Dakota, dove into a canal to save a young Iraqi teenager from drowning. The 164 Engineer Battalion is one of the North Dakota units named to continue the lineage of the 164th Infantry Regiment.



Company A/164 Soldiers look for Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) that have been placed along the sides of the roads in Iraq. Their team observed a youth drowning in swiftly-flowing water, and Spc. Kyle Mueller, Minot, ND, would say later, "It was like a switch had gone off in my head". He removed his personal protective gear and dove into the murky water, guided by Spc David VanVoorhis, Minot, who had a clear view of where the boy

had gone under the water. When Mueller surfaced with the boy's body, Sgt. Guy Stevens, Minot, and Sgt. Jeffrey Simek, Bismarck, helped bring the boy ashore. They revived the youth and sat with him until he was fully conscious. 1st Lt. Kris Neset, Minot, later stated, "The weirdest thing about the event was that a few minutes after saving the boy, we got back in our vehicles and patrolled for another 7 hours. We never did get the kid's name."

[See another A Co, 164 Engr Bn story in Thoughts & Prayers, page 3.]

Medal of Honor for 164's Woody Keeble One Step Closer



See update on pages 12-13



AS KNOWN ON 10 JUNE 2006

- Warren Frederick Fluharty, (WWII) 12 Aug 05 [see Page 7]*
Isaias V. Vasquez, (WWII) Co I, 29 Jun 91 [see Page 8]
Morton "Jerry" Marks, (WWII) Co C, 13 Oct 03 [see Page 9]
Lyle Frank Mollet, (WWII) Medic, 21 Feb 06
Joel Togstad, (K) Svc Co, 6 Feb 06
Wallace G. "Bud" Olson, (WWII) Co L, 20 Mar 06
William C. Hanson, (WWII)(LM) Co B, 25 Mar 06
Bruce L. Moore, (WWII)(LM), 28 Jan 06 [see photo Page 3]
Clarence Dalzell, (WWII), 23 Jan 06
Howard Arthur Bjerketvedt, (WWII) Co G, 10 Feb 06

26Feb06 *From* Lowell W. Lundberg (LM)(K), who was wintering in Mesa, AZ: 164 Inf Assoc -- Herewith the obituary of **Lyle F. Mollet (LM)**, 87, Mesa Arizona, a medic with the 164 in World War II and a platoon leader in Co C, 231st Engineer Combat Bn in Korean War period. "C" was from Bottineau at that time and it was thus that he was at Ft Lewis, WA. *From the Obit:* In 1941, Lyle joined the US Army as did several of his friends from Bottineau and was assigned to the 164th Infantry **Medics**. He served together with his North Dakota friends as a medic in Louisiana, the South Pacific, **Guadalcanal, Bougainville**, and the **Fiji** Islands during WWII before being honorably discharged with several military decorations. Lyle reenlisted in the US Army during the Korean Conflict and was stationed at Ft. Lewis, WA. He is survived by his son, Chris J (Lynne), and grandsons Ben, Corey, and Jeff. *Ed note: Special thanks to son Chris who mailed us a complete obituary for our records. This issue of the News has been mailed to Chris's family.*



Joel L. Togstad, 77, of Devils Lake, ND, died on February 06, 2006, at Heartland Care Center, Devils Lake. He served in the Army National Guard during the Korean Conflict with the 164th Infantry, stationed at Alabama from January 16, 1951- October 14, 1952. After his honorable discharge he returned to Devils Lake and began employment with the Great Northern Railroad, and later working for Dakota Implement. *Ed note:* Mr. Togstad was able to attend the Svc Co Reunion in Devils Lake in January! [See page 14]. Thanks to CW4 (Ret) Larry J. Liere, Devils Lake, who helped me find the obituary at the Gilbertson Funeral Home website http://www.webfh.com/fh/obituaries/home.cfm?&fh_id=10587

Wallace G. Olson, 88, passed away at his home in Lynnwood, WA, on 20 Mar 06. He was a member of **Co L**, Hillsboro. From the Obit: Wallace G. Olson was born on May 30, 1918, in Hillsboro, ND. Known all his life as "Bud", he was a graduate of the University of North Dakota and served in the North Dakota National Guard's 164th Infantry Regiment, Americal Division. The 164th was the lead offensive unit employed by the U.S. Army during W.W.II to recapture Guadalcanal where Bud was decorated with the Bronze Star.

Clarence J. Dalzell, age 89, passed away January 2, 2006. He was born on July 9, 1916, in Leroy, ND, and is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Edna; children, Louis, Ray (Carol), Larry (Sheila) and Karen; 3 brothers, 1 sister, 5 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren. Clarence was a farmer in his early days in ND, entered the Civilian Conservation Corps, & volunteered for the US Army during WW II (1941-1945). He is interred at Ft Snelling. *Ed. Note: son Louis has joined us as an associate life member!*

Howard A. Bjerkedvedt, 89, served from 29Apr41–31May45 with the 164th Infantry, on the Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Northern Solomon, and Philippine Island campaigns. He was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received on Leyte on 24Feb45. He is survived by his wife, Beverly; daughter, Vicky; and sons Verdell & Wayne, 7 grandchildren, and 1 great grand-child. He was a life member of the VFW, DAV, and a member of the American Legion. He is interred at Leaf Mountain Cemetery, near Henning, MN.



In Our Thoughts & Prayers....

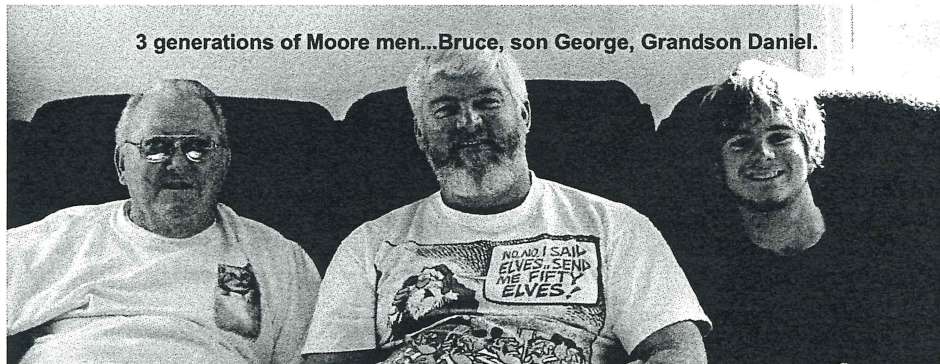
Bismarck, ND- 24 May 2006 Maj. Gen. Michael Haugen, Adjutant General of the North Dakota National Guard, announced today that one Soldier from **Company A, 164 Engineer Battalion (EB)**, was **killed in action in Iraq** on Tuesday, 23 May. Specialist Michael L. Hermanson, 21, of Fargo, was killed in action as a result of a rocket propelled grenade (RPG) hitting the vehicle he was riding in. Spc. Hermanson was participating in a combat patrol mission the evening of May 23 to monitor and clear roads of suspicious looking objects that could be hiding places for improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Hermanson was a member of the 142nd Engr Bn, Fargo, but volunteered for duty with the 164th. He is survived by his parents, a sister, and an older brother.

2 Mar 06. I would like to inform you that Associate Member, **Ruth F. Sawyer** passed away on Feb. 27, 2006. She was the wife of former veteran member **Raymond L. Sawyer**. Please update your files accordingly. I know mom and dad always enjoyed the 164th gatherings and were grateful for all the good times, friendships, and memories. This generation of veterans and spouses will never be again, you are truly "The Greatest Generation". Thanks again for all that the 164th Infantry Association does and stands for. God's Peace, Jim Sawyer (Son of Raymond and Ruth Sawyer), jssawyer85@comcast.net

27 Mar 07 Dear Shirley. It was a pleasure talking with you last week about the 164th Infantry Association. Yesterday, our family laid to rest our uncle, **Wallace G. Olson**, who served with **Company "L"** of the 164th during the Guadalcanal campaign of WWII. Uncle "Bud" died March 20th at his residence. Per your request, I am enclosing an abbreviated obituary and a copy of a picture of him for inclusion in a future issue of the association newsletter. Would you be so kind so forward a copy of the newsletter issue to me so that I can distribute it to other members of the family? Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Sincerely Yours, David R. Markland, 1083 Northgate Dr, Yuba City, CA 95991-1228.

May 05 While mowing at the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery, Sec/Treas Ben Kemp stopped to pay respects at former 164 Life Member **Frank Weisgerber's** gravesite. At that time, he observed that Frank's wife, **Arlene**, had passed away in 2005. As is customary at veteran's cemeteries, spouses are buried in the same plot and their name is engraved on the reverse of the veteran's headstone.

Date: *Sat, 1 Apr 2006* Dear Editor: We wanted to let you know of the passing of our father, **Bruce L. Moore**, 82 years



Daniel Gordon, and Alyssa Mary. Please say a prayer for Bruce. Sincerely, George Moore, 32722 Dinuba CT, Union City, CA 94587 Ed. note His Memorial Service was held at Sea on a yacht out of San Francisco Pier 39.

Mar 06: *Email From William J. Hagen (LM):* You are hereby notified that **William C. "Bill" Hanson** passed away March 25th, 2006. He was in **Co B**. Please see that this gets into the *News*. Bill Hagen

18 Mar 06: On 29 Dec 05, I received a call from my niece in Cape Cod, MA, that my brother's wife passed away. Made a fast trip to the funeral and returned home. Two days later, I received a call that my son in Iraq had an emergency and I put the Red Cross to work to get him home. (They did a great job—he was home in 3 days!). Then on 25 Jan 06, I went back to Cape Cod to visit my brother who was hospitalized and on dialysis, and couldn't swallow so also had a feeding tube. Stayed with him for 12 days, then returned home because he was doing better. Three days later he passed, at age 93. I'm sure he wanted to be with his wife of 66 years and I hope they are resting in peace. My **brother** also served during **WWII**, in the **European Theatre**, and retired after 30 years of service as a Master Sergeant. SGM (ret) **Joe Castagneto (LM)**, 525 Howard Cir, Lincoln, AL 35096

April 2006: This must be my year for bad news. My friend and Medal of Honor recipient, CW4 (ret) Michael Noversel, passed away last Sunday from cancer. He flew with my son Larry in Vietnam, and we were assigned together at the Warrant Officer's Career College at Ft. Rucker. The main street to Post HQS was named in his honor 10 years ago. He was a great Soldier and Friend. SGM (ret) **Joe Castagneto (LM)**

P.S. There is a website about his history, book, and Medal of Honor: <http://alabamavva.org/cw4.html>



BASIC REUNION SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, 15 September 2006: Evening – Social & Registration
 SATURDAY, 16 September 2006: Morning – Brunch & Business session
 Unit pictures will be taken during Noon Lunch--don't miss out!
 Afternoon – 188th Band Concert & Highway Dedication at Veterans Park
 Evening – Memorial Service, Banquet, & Dance at VFW
 SUNDAY, 17 September 2006: Morning – Brunch & Farewell



NEW MEMBERS!!

Anthony S. Czarnecki, 7512 Winnetka Ave, Winnetka, CA 91306 (164 veteran, WWII, Co K) [See Pg 6]
 Clifford R. Kurtz, 6727 N Pershing Ave, Stockton, CA 95207-2522 (164 Veteran, WWII, Reg't Hqs Co)
 George M. Dahlen, 103 Adams St, Box 276, Edmore, ND 58330 (164 veteran, Korean War, Svc Co) [See Pg 14]
 Roger S. Smith, 1739 4th Ave NE, Jamestown, ND 58401 (164 veteran, Korean War, Co K)
 Curtis W. Herman, 1404 17-1/2 Ave NW, Minot, ND 58701 ((164 veteran, Korean War)

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS* (identified by *)

Keith Burck*, 3702 River Drive, Fargo, ND 58104 (friend of Alvin Tollefsrud (WWII))
 Robert E. Hanson*, 364 Teton Ave, Bismarck, ND (son of Louis J Hanson (LM)(WWII))
 Julie Marks*, 1711 Columbiana Ln, Birmingham, AL 35216 (daughter of M. Jerry Marks (WWII)[See Pg 9]
 SSG (ret) Ron Biberdorf*, 411 16th St NW, Mandan, ND 58554 (nephew of Elwin Swift(WWII))
 MAJ (ret) Carl W. Fischer* 622 Pennsylvania St, Leavenworth, KS 66048

JOINED FOR LIFE!!

1SG (ret) Dora Vasquez-Hellner*, PO Box 652, Ashaway, RI 02804 (daughter of I.V. Vasquez, WWII ,Co I)[Pg 8]
 Louis J. Dalzell*, 737 112th Ave NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55446 (Son of Clarence J Dalzell, WWII)[Last Roll Call]
 Wilbert I. "Willie" Dallmann, 413 6th Ave NE, Valley City, ND 58072 (164 veteran, Korean War, Co B)
 BG (ret) Jerome T. Hagen*, 47-446 Lulani St, Kaneohe, HI 96744 (author of *War in the Pacific* series)
 Kevin M. Summers*, 1102 Westrac Dr, Apt 201, Fargo, ND 58103 (son of Roy R. Summers, WWII, Co F)

ADDRESS CHANGES



Mar 06: Change: Catherine Walker*, 500 Smith Ave, Richland, WA 99352-3862
 He's Back, up North! Lowell Lundberg (LM)(K), 1701 Plumtree Rd, Fargo, ND 58102
 May 06: Change: Neil A. Tennyson (LM), 17650 Devonshire St, Northridge, CA 91325-2737
 May 06: Change: Anton C. Beer (WWII), PO Box 419, Paso Robles, CA 93447
 May 06: Change: Clarence M. Slais, c/o Shirley Larson, 8054 149th Ave NW, Grenora, ND 58845-9305
 May 06: Change: Joseph Ramsfield, 2800 Lay Lake Rd, Apt 207, Denison, TX 75020
 May 06: Change: Robert Oeffner, 2500 S. 370th Sp #154, Federal Way, WA 98003
 May 06: Change: Ruth Engebrecht, 200 S. Linam St, Hobbs, NM 88240

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!!

VAN SWERINGEN* (LM)			COLLEEN	25.00 IN MEMORY OF BILL LOVE		
BUTTKE	PAUL	25.00	KRAUSCH	WALLACE J	5.00	TODD * DONNA J 10.00
CASTAGNETO	JOSEPH A	100.00	KURTZ	CLIFFORD R	5.00	ZIMMERMAN DUANE J 15.00
COLLINS	EDWARD	15.00	POE*	EURETTA E.	10.00	Donations sent in with Ticket Stubs are noted on pages 18-19
HAGEN*	JEROME T	50.00	ROSALEZ	BEN J.	25.00	

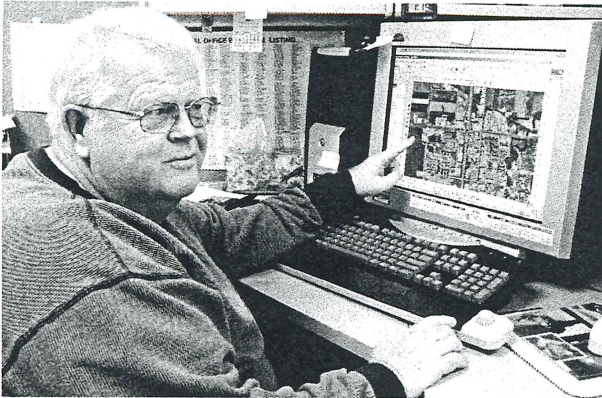
A WOL LISTING

Hey folks! This is your 2nd "Free" issue. Because of high postage costs, we'll be forced to drop you off our list.
 We'd hate to lose you, so please send in those dues!

ANDERSON	MORRIS	LAKE PARK	MN	MCMILLAN	BOB	SAN ANTONIO	TX
ARMSTRONG	LEO	HARRISONVILLE	MO	MULLIGAN	ED	DURAND	WI
FISCHER	PAUL F	DICKINSON	ND	OLSON	GLENN H	GRAND FORKS	ND
GILBERTSON	ARNIE	HILLSBORO	ND	OSTER	DONAVAN	MESA	AZ
GJESVOLD	WALLACE	WILDROSE	ND	SMITH *	LUCILLE M	AUBURN	WA
HESS	ROBERT M	WATERTOWN	SD	THOMPSON	ARVID	ROSEVILLE	MN
ISENBERG	GEO W	LAS VEGAS	NV	TUFF *	JOHN H.	LANSBORO	MN
KJELSTROM	EDWIN J.	RUGBY	ND	VOTAVA	FRANK S	GRAFTON	ND
KNUDSON	BRENTON C.	PETALUMA	CA	WEBER	RHEINHOLD L	VALLEY CITY	ND
LARSON	DENNIS W.	FARGO	ND	WIIK	HENRY M	MINOT	ND
LIFFRIG	DUANE R.	BISMARCK	ND	YEARKE	LOUIS L	GRAND FORKS	ND
MAIER JR.	CHRIS	LINTON	ND				

With a little help from our Friends.....

164th Infantry Memorial Highway Comes Alive

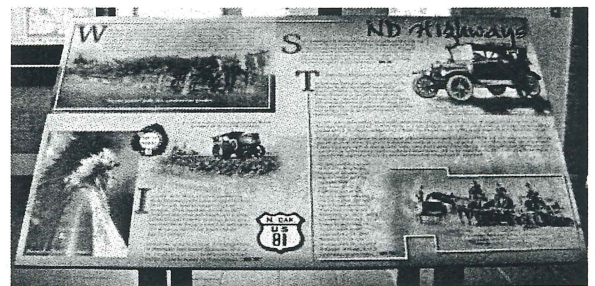


LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!

Reinold Kellar, at ND Department of Transportation (DOT), is the guy who determines where all the road signs go! His computer screen lights up like a Vegas billboard with dots of all different colors to display the location of the signs along ND roadways. Here, he points at a location where one of eleven "164th Infantry Memorial Highway" signs will be placed along US Highway 2. Kellar will be retiring in September, after 46 years as a DOT employee. "The 164th has been a great organization to work with on this project. Very enjoyable," said Kellar. We appreciate you, too, Reiny! Thanks for all your help!

Historical Interpretive Panels Will Tell the 164th Story

At right is an example of the pattern and design (but not content) of the Historical Interpretive Panels that will be placed at each of the five state-maintained rest areas along "The 164th Infantry Memorial Highway". The content was approved by the 164th Association Executive Committee, and includes lineage, history, and insignia of the 164th, as well as locations of the units within North Dakota and other significant information. Exactly what is on the 164 panels? Get a good look at the Reunion!!



GREAT GRAPHICS!!



Graphics Designer & Sign Consultant **Dee Fields** (above) designed the layout of the 164 Historical Interpretive Panels, with some assistance from your Editor and input from the 164th Executive Committee.

You can see a sneak preview on the computer screen above. Note the artwork by 164th's own Doug Burtell!

Dee is employed with M Squared Solutions, Bismarck, and she can work magic with the *Adobe Illustrator* computer program that created the layout. She also contracted the production of the weather proof panels with the time-tested Folia Company from Canada. Dee, you're great!

PLACES FOR PANELS

Jerry Horner, NDDOT State Maintenance Engineer, is coordinating the emplacement of the panels at each of the 5 rest areas along "The 164th Infantry Memorial Highway". Horner, who retired at the rank of Colonel in 1998 with 35 years of service with the ND Army National Guard and US Army Reserve, is retiring from the DOT after a 43 year career. Jerry has a deep appreciation for military history and is interested in "doing things the right way" for the 164th. Thanks, Jerry!



AND THE PEOPLE WHO STARTED IT ALL...



Pres Bernie Wagner (left) & Hetty Walker (far right) flank State Sen Larry Robinson, Valley City, & State Sen Tom Trenbeath, Cavalier, sponsors of the legislation to name US Highway 2 through North Dakota as "The 164th Infantry Memorial Highway" during the 48th North Dakota Legislative Assembly in 2005.

NEW MEMBERS FOUND ON AMERICAL WEBSITE

Editor's note: While searching the Americal Division Association website (www.americal.org), I located a list of people seeking information about the 164th or its members. The March 2006 issue contained 5 pages of notes and photos from these new members and friends. Here are some more!



VOLUME 1, NUMBER 23 FORT LAWTON, WASHINGTON TUESDAY, 20 NOVEMBER, 1945

Welcome Americal! The Post Is Yours; Lawton Goes All Out For War-Wearied Pacific Veterans

If you processed thru Ft Lawton, WA, when you came home, you might remember this headline on the front page of the post digest.

Sounds like there might have been hot food and cold beer!! This historical gem was found in the Fluharty memoires and was sent in by Debbie Angles.

(See next page) The Americal History says that the Division was inactivated at Ft. Lawton in Dec '45.

NEW MEMBER TONY CZARNECKI

February 2006 To Whom It May Concern:

My name is **Anthony (Tony) Czarnecki**. I joined with the Americal Division, **Company K**, 164th Infantry, in 1943, on the island of **Fiji**. I was assigned to the Machine Gun Squad under Corporal Tony Wolf of North Dakota. After the training period, we left the island for **Bougainville** (in December '43) to relieve the Marine Division. After securing Bougainville, we moved on to hit the islands of the **Phillipines**, starting with **Leyte, Cebus, Bohol, and Mindinao**. Was later assigned to mop up operations of approximately fifteen islands. On returning to Cebu, we learned that the war was over. We were then assigned to duties in **Japan**. I would appreciate any information on the men I had served with: **SSgt Remallong**, No. Dakota; **Cpl Tony Wolf**, No. Dakota; **Joe Berklitz**, Company I, Minn; **Paul Guzie**, Twin Cities, Min; **Leonard Doss**, Texas; **Bob Wensky**, Michigan; **Lloyd Cordes**, Kansas City, KS; **Sal Molite**, New York; **Rusty Rystead**, NDak or Minn.

Please write to **Tony Czarnecki**, 7512 Winnetka Ave, Winnetka, CA 91306, or email our Son (Tony, Jr) at tonyczar7@msn.com THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!

Ed note—none of the people listed are current members, but I did find info on the two ND boys through internet searches. Unfortunately, they have passed.

FROM ND MOBILIZATION BOOK: Wolf, Anthony M, 20711559, DOB 6/15/1915

FROM <https://secure.apps.state.nd.us/doh/certificates/deathCertSearch.htm>

WOLF, ANTHONY MARTIN Date of Death 02/03/1980 DOB 06/15/1915

FROM ND MOBILIZATION BOOK: Remillong, Roland J, 20711534, DOB 1/21/1920

FROM www.legacy.com/Obituaries.asp?Page=ObitFinderOrder&PersonID=1688671

Remillong, John Roland - age 83, passed Dec 11, 2003.. US Army WWII Veteran...

REMEMBERING EVERETT S. HULTMAN

I am looking for anyone who knew my Dad, PFC Everett S. Hultman, when he was at Guadalcanal.

Ed— This photo was left out of the March 2006 issue, page 9.



He was from Eveleth, MN, and served in **Company L, 3rd Battalion, 164th Inf.**

Thank you, Gary Hultman*, 706 South Court, Eveleth, MN 55734

email: hult@cpinternet.com

REMEMBERING W. FREDERICK FLUHARTY



W.F. Fluharty entered the service 15 Mar 43. Discharged 28 Nov 45 at the Rank of Private First Class. Served as Rifleman, Radio man, mortar man, & truck driver. Wounded at Cebu May 1945, sent to Leyte for surgery & recovery, then returned to duty in time to ship to Japan for "the end"!

"Thank you for your condolences....Dad was so very sick and fought quite a battle right to the end. I miss him terribly, but am grateful for the 54 years that I had with him... Daddy told funny stories and kept most of the horrible details to himselfwe had only our imaginations to rely on from the few details he did give us coupled with the newspaper articles in our local paper during his time in the service.

Gosh, I sure wish I'd known about this organization a couple of years ago...it would have fascinated my Dad! He would have loved thinking there might be a chance to come across someone he might have been in the service with. But, then, if we are to believe in the afterlife....I guess there's a huge reunion of Vets somewhere on "the other side"? Huh?

I hope your wonderful newsletters bring joy to the treasured few WWII Veterans we have left with us here on Earth. Enclosed is my membership. I'm very proud to be associated with the brave soldiers who fought with my Dad."

Debbie Fluharty Angles*, 1248 Wheeling Avenue, Zanesville, OH 43701, email: dja@y-city.net

Local Soldier ^{April 11, 1945} Helps Take Jap

How a Muskingum county soldier assisted in the capture of a Jap during action in Bougainville to win a case of ice cold beer from the commanding general of the American division is related in a dispatch from the South Pacific island.

Taking part in the action was Pfc. Warren F. Fluharty, son of Mrs. Beulah Fluharty, of Zanesville, Rt. 6.

The case of beer is Maj. Gen. John R. Hodge's standing reward for the capture of a live Jap.

Pfc. Fluharty was a member of a patrol from a hard-hitting infantry regiment which was acting as security for an ambush patrol along a trail in a dense jungle. Pfc. Cornelio F. Figueroa of Benson, Ariz., spotted a Jap on his left flank and cautiously stalked him, working his way to a spot where he would have perfect aim for his quarry.

Figueroa wasn't thinking about capturing the Nip alive and when he at last had drawn a fine bead, he tripped on a vine and buried his face in the dirt. The Jap ran like a startled deer.

However, the Nip was cut off from his unit, hungry and unable to withstand the nerve-wracking fire of the Yank artillery. He quickly summed up the situation, and decided he wanted to be a live Jap rather than a dead one. He hid his rifle and returned to the trail with the intention of surrendering.

Pfc. Paul Flemming of Ironton, Mo., saw the Jap approaching and wasted no time in concealing himself in the jungle where he calmly took aim at the enemy. Meanwhile, Pfc. Fluharty also glimpsed the Jap and clicked his belt home but noticed that the enemy carried no weapons.

When the Nip heard the sound of the bolt, he dropped his equipment and began to remove his clothing to convince his captors that he was unarmed. The men called Sgt. Morris A. Larssen of Valley City, N. D., the patrol commander, while their prisoner saluted and bowed down on his knees, asking for mercy.

The word "mercy" was the only English the Jap knew, but he maintained a constant jabber of Nipponese. Taking the Jap by the arm, Sgt. Larssen escorted him to the rear. The prisoner was pleased and smiling until he came upon two of his countrymen lying dead beside the trail. Then he bowed low in respect to his fallen comrades.

When Sgt. Larssen received his reward from the American general, he split the profits with patrol members.

"All I did was bring him in," Larssen said. "Besides, if those guys hadn't received any of the refreshments, they would have torn me apart. I couldn't very well 'hog' it if I wanted to."

--Above & Below from *Zanesville News*

ZANESVILLE BOY GETS A SNIPER

A Japanese sniper on Bougainville recently made one fatal mistake, and a Zanesville soldier was alert to take advantage of it.

Here's the U. P. story:

Pvt. Fluharty unexpectedly popped up behind a Jap and let out a shrill whistle. And here is where the Nipper made his fatal mistake. The startled son of the Rising Sun whirled and fell before Fluharty's point-blank shot.

This was Fluharty's third victim during one patrol.



Fluharty (top r) and friends at Ft. L. Wood.

CLASS OF SERVICE
This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless the deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION
A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt in NY.

CZ52 64 GOVT=WASHINGTON DC 15-12561
MRS BEULAH FLUHARTY:
ROUTE NUMBER 6

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DESIRES ME TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP REGRET THAT YOUR SON PFC FLUHARTY WARREN F WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED ON CEBU 14 APR 45 PERIOD HOSPITAL IS SENDING YOU NEW ADDRESS AND FURTHER INFORMATION PERIOD UNLESS SUCH NEW ADDRESS HAS BEEN RECEIVED ADDRESS MAIL FOR HIM QUOTE RANK NAME SERIAL NUMBER HOSPITALIZED CENTRAL DIRECTORY APO 501 CARE POSTMASTER SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORN UNQUOTE=

J A ULIO THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE ARMY.
THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Fluharty's Mom taught him how to shoot (and how to whistle) when he was young. (see 'Sniper' story at right!)

A long-awaited Bronze Star Medal arrived in March —six months after his passing.

MORE NEW MEMBERS FOUND ON AMERICAL WEBSITE

REMEMBERING ISAIAS V. VASQUEZ

5 Mar 06 Hello LTC Shirley: As requested, enclosed are several documents that pertain to my dad, **SSG Isaias V. Vasquez**. I am also enclosing \$50 for my *lifetime* dues. The documents include his discharge record, infantry badge award orders [Gen Ord #122, Sec XV, 31 Aug 44], separation picture at Camp Roberts, CA, and two Christmas grams. The Christmas Grams are addressed to my aunt, my dad's youngest sister.

I am sending the Locator information (from the Americal Website) in hopes that someone will step forward who knew my dad. I am so thankful for your assistance and persistence in the submission of this information:

"My father, **SSG Isaias V. Vasquez**, also known as **Shadow** and **Chuck**, served as an infantryman with **Co I, 164th Infantry**, from approximately November 1942 to January 1944. Chuck spent a major portion of his duty on **Guadalcanal**. He was also known to give a haircut or two. Anyone who can provide information about my dad and his role in the 164th, please contact me." 1SG (ret) Dora Vasquez-Hellner, PO Box 652, Ashaway, RI 02804 Email: abndora@aol.com

SUMMARY OF MILITARY OCCUPATION AND CIVILIAN CONVERSIONS (Shown by title)
SQUAD LEADER: In charge of a rifle squad. Trained replacements, and was leader of the squad in combat. Proficient in the use of the M-1 rifle, Browning Automatic Rifle; rocket launchers, rifle grenade launchers, carbine; thompson sub machine gun; light machine gun; bayonet; and trench knife. Read maps. On scouting patrols drew maps and diagrams showing position of enemy guns, vehicles, and strong points. Familiar with techniques of hand-to-hand combat, and trained in the efficient use of camouflage and natural cover. [From War Dept AGO Form 100 -- Honorable Discharge]



A few years ago, I learned from my uncle, who also served with the Army in the European theatre, that he had contact with one of my dad's former company commanders. Unfortunately, my uncle could not remember his name. My uncle was going through training at Ft Hood, TX, and started up a conversation with the Captain who had recently returned from the islands. The Captain relayed information about a particular soldier who had served with him for a period of time and his expert infantry skills. The Captain then gave my dad's nickname "**Shadow**", which then left my uncle speechless. Needless to say, "what a small world!"

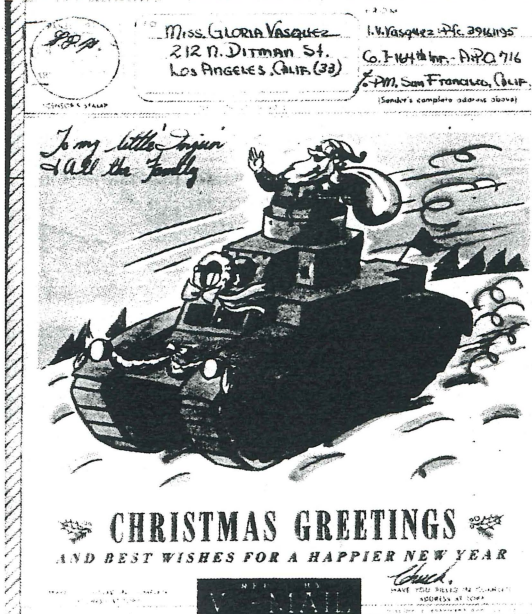
And His Daughter Also Wore Army Boots...



New Associate Life Member **Dora Vasquez-Hellner** served on active duty from August 1977 to June 2000. Her last assignment was as First Sergeant, Military Intelligence Company, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Ft. Bragg, NC. She was a paratrooper and an instructor at the Army's Survival, Evasion, Resistance, & Escape School at Ft Bragg. She commanded an Interrogation Team during Operation Just Cause in Panama. To this day, she is the only woman who has commanded a unit within a Special Forces Group. Because of her experience and extensive training in interrogation techniques, Vasquez-Hellner was recently featured on the **History Channel** program "*We Can Make You Talk*". "I did all this because of my Dad", she said by email. "I know that my dad was really proud of my accomplishments. I was only doing my job to the best of my ability. I am so glad that I pushed my soldiers to train realistically...in the long run it did pay off."

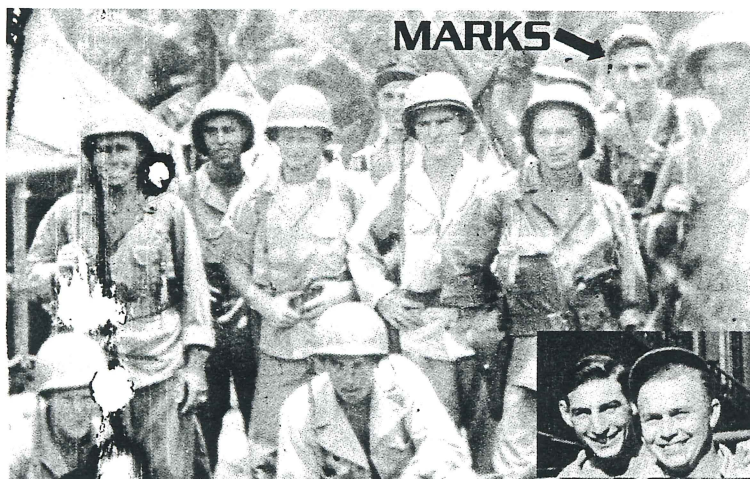


Above, Vasquez just prior to separation in California, 1945. Below, Christmas V-MAIL sent to his sister. Year unknown.



Even MORE NEW MEMBERS FOUND ON AMERICAL WEBSITE

REMEMBERING MORTON JEROME "JERRY" MARKS



Lt Col Olgeirson: Thank you for your email and the copy of the 164th Infantry News. My father, **Morton Jerome "Jerry" Marks**, was a Private First Class in **Co C, 164th Infantry**. He was a **flamethrower** and fought in **Leyte, Cebu, and the Solomon Islands**. At the end of the conflict, he needed more time before he could muster out, so he served as an MP in **Japan** during the war crime trials.

According to my father's separation papers, he enlisted in the Army on 16 June 1943 and was initially assigned to **Ft. McClellan, AL**. He was then sent to **Colorado** to train as a ski paratrooper for eventual duty in the Italian Alps.

The tide of the war turned and he was sent to **Camp Shelby, MS**, for training before being sent to the Philippines in May 1944. The papers list his duties as "**ammunition bearer 610**" and that he fought in the **Northern Solomons** and **Southern Philippines**. Although we do not have any of his medals, he was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, Philippine Liberation Ribbon, and the WWII Victory Medal. He was denied the Purple Heart when he applied a few years before his death. Most of [his] Army records had been destroyed and he could not verify his claim that he had a shrapnel wound and suffered from malaria during the war. Dad separated from the Army in Camp Shelby on 5 February 1946.

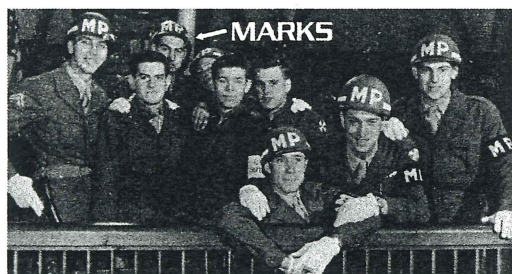


My Dad 'partnered' with **Robert "Bob" Ottweiler** as flamethrowers. Dad never spoke much of his war exploits until we saw the movies Saving Private Ryan and The Thin Red Line. During these movies, he pointed out the flamethrowers as they would approach the bunkers and caves and told me that was what he had done in the war.

After the war ended, he was part of the military police that guarded the **war crime trials in Japan** (photo at right). At night, his duty was close to the Geisha Houses. Dad was very proud to have been a part of the



Americal Division and to have served his country. My brothers and I consider our Dad a "hero." He truly was part of the "Greatest Generation".



Morton Jerome "Jerry" Marks was born on January 26, 1925, and died on October 13, 2002. He was predeceased by his wife, Beverly Levy Marks, and his parents, Esther and Ernest Marks. He was survived by his children, Robert (Carol) Marks, Jay (Rena) Marks, and Julie Marks, and by his grandchildren, David, Danielle, Lindsey, Ellie, Eitan, Nathaniel, Rachel, and Chaim. David

Marks is currently serving in the US Army and has just finished a tour of duty in Iraq. He is a member of the **3rd Infantry** and is stationed at Ft Benning, GA.

Sincerely, **Julie Marks***, 1711 Columbiana Ln, Birmingham, AL, email BhamJam1@aol.com.

SUCCESS STORIES!!! NEW MEMBERS FIND FRIENDS THRU THE NEWS

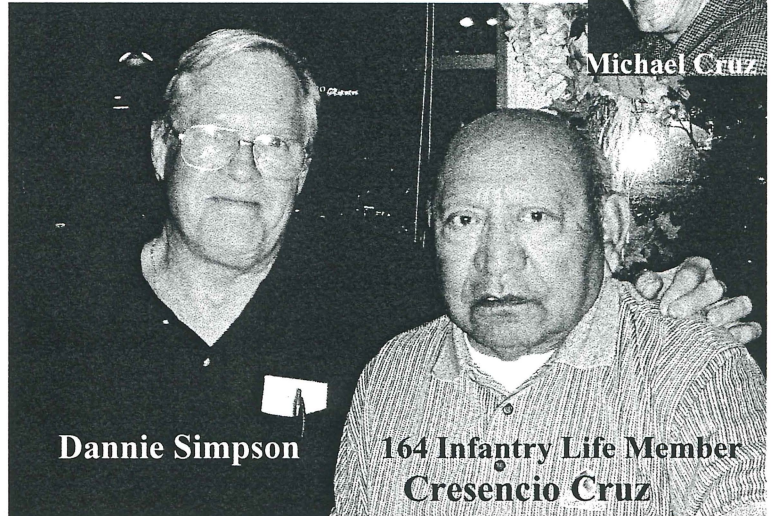
Reference: **JAMES CROFTON SIMPSON** Story [March 2006, pg 10]



March 26, 2006 Dear Lt. Col Olgeirson: Thank you so much for publishing the story about my father, **James C. Simpson**, in the last edition of the *The 164th Infantry News*. [March 2006, Page 10]. **It produced immediate results!**

On the evening of March 3, I received a phone call from Mr. **Cresencio Cruz** (LM) from Santa Monica, California. **Mr. Cruz told me that he had been in the same squad with my father and was with him when he was killed.**

I was amazed and very thankful to Mr. Cruz for calling. But – that’s not all of the story. My work in the field of consulting carries me all over the world and as it happens, I was working on a project about sixty miles from Santa Monica. On the evening of Wednesday, March 8, **Mr. Cruz, his son Michael**, and I were able to get together for dinner and talked for over two hours. I carried some maps of the **Philippines** with me and Mr. Cruz was able to lead me verbally through the actions that he and my father saw together and pointed out the exact location where my father was killed. It was a great meeting and when I parted company with Mr. Cruz and Michael, I felt that I had known them all my life. Some pictures of our dinner meeting are attached.



Dannie Simpson

**164 Infantry Life Member
Cresencio Cruz**

*“World War II Orphans have a hard time dealing with the loss of someone they never knew. When I talked to Mr. Cruz and he told me he was in the same squad as my dad and was there on the day he died, it was like hearing of his death for the first time - all over again - very emotional for me. It took me almost two weeks to get up enough nerve to tell my Mom that I had been in contact with Mr. Cruz - I didn't know how she would be able to take the news. She's happy that we were able to get together.”---
Dannie Simpson*

Mr. Cruz was also able to tell me about another member of the squad, **Mr. Cortez**, who now lives in the San Jose, California area. I hope to talk with him soon. Thanks again for being there.

Sincerely, **Dannie M. Simpson***, 305 Baucom Deese Road, Monroe, NC 28110



Editor: GREAT STORY, Dannie! I'm so pleased to have helped you in your quest! By coincidence, Mr. John Godava*, from Minnesota, sent albums of photos belonging to his brother, **Frank Godava, Company F!** In Frank's albums, I found **Cruz & Cortez** in the same picture (at right)! Let me know if you locate Mr. Cortez so we can send him the News!



**Left:
Simpson & Cortez
Below:
Simpson & Cruz.**

These two pictures are reprints of the photos shown in the March 2006 issue.



SUCCESS STORIES!!! NEW MEMBERS FIND FRIENDS THRU THE NEWS

Reference: **ERNEST TOLLIVER Story [March 2006, page 6]**

I loved the March issue. How informative! I can't believe it's only your fourth issue as editor, it's so professional. And even though I've said I couldn't make the reunion due to the fact school will have just started, I'm now determined to go to it, even if it means a very quick trip. **Paul Dickerson** and his wife wrote me a letter within a week. Just like everyone else, he can remember the name, but not put a face to it. But added news that has nothing to do with the newsletter.



Sue (L) & her Dad. Ernest

My uncle who has always told me my dad didn't tell him anything came across an old tape where he'd interviewed my dad. He copied it as my birthday gift. The day before Mr. Dickerson wrote, I watched my dad tell two horrific stories of the **First Platoon**. The next day, Mr. Dickerson's letter repeated First Platoon's [exploits]. I'm hoping, that as Mr. Dickerson thinks about him, more will be remembered. Thank you and all the veterans for this wonderful organization and newsletter. **Sue Tolliver-Pompa***, skp2307@mchsi.com.

7 Mar 06 Dear Sue: My husband (**Paul Dickerson**) and I read with interest about your search for news about your late father, **Ernie Tolliver**. Paul was drafted out of high school in 1943 and was sent to Ft Leonard Wood in MO around Apr 1st, '43, and went overseas in mid-Oct to be a replacement in the 164th Infantry. He went first to **New Caledonia** and next to the **Fiji Islands** before going on to **Bougainville**, **Philippine Islands**, and **Japan**. Paul

was put into **A Company** in the **weapons platoon**. He knew some of the men on the list your father [had]. Later, Paul took over for the company clerk, who was sent home, so he came into contact with the names of all the men in all the platoons, having to make out a morning (roster) report each day. He thinks Tolliver was in the 1st Platoon. We've kept in contact with several of the A Company veterans and their wives during the last 25 years.

The following is what Paul wrote out last night for me to forward to you. His writing is shaky, so he asked me to write it out for you. "I read your letter in the 164th Inf News. I was in "A" company for 2 years

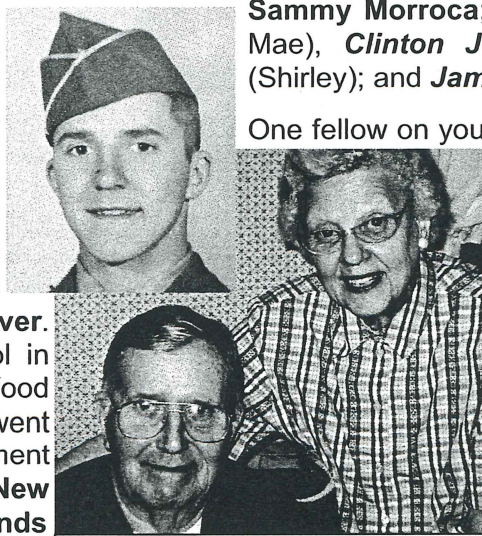
and while I can't put a face to the name, I do remember the name. I called a friend in Carson, ND, but he was unable to hear on the phone. His son Gary says he (Harold) saw your letter and his opinion was that Ernie was in the 1st Platoon. Six of the men on your Dad's check-off list were from "A" Company. They are TSgt Don Johnson, PFC Robert Cusson, PFC Pete Perrino (all from 1st Plt), TSgt Matt Mastel, SSgt Bob Fenton, & SSgt Gail Jackman. I have an address for **Byron B. "Barney" Burdette** (LM)(wife Ruby)--all other 1st Plt men on my list have passed on now. They were **Harold (Nose) Caya** (wife Mary), **Orville Howe**, **Larry McKay** (wife Lois), **Gaby Pounds** (wife Betty), & **Lester Rhoades** (wife Ruby).

Some of the "A" Co men we still keep in touch with: Weapons Platoon-- **Raymond (Robby) Robertson**, **Don Stevens** (LM), **Buriel (Abe) Watkins** (M)(wife Lois), **Wm B Yohe**, **Merwin E. Bokelman** (LM)(Lou), **Walter Hickey** (LM)(Mildred); 3rd Platoon--**Gene Brinkman** (Bettie), **Joseph Castagneto** (LM), **Arthur Hanley** (LM)(Carol), **Harold Krause** (LM) (Edna), **Sammy Morroca**; 2nd Platoon--**Wm H Dailey** (Willa-Mae), **Clinton J Meche** (LM), **F. Curtis Archer** (Shirley); and **James Curran** (M), medic.

One fellow on your Dad's list, **Bob Fenton**, was quite an amateur photographer. He took a lot of pictures, sent the film home to have it developed, and made several sets, which he sold to the GI's. I've seen several of the pictures in Paul's albums show up in other guy's albums. Paul and our daughter, Paula, sat down a few years ago and she interviewed him at length. Using his memories and pictures, she put together a book about his experiences. It is called "This is my Story" from the song: 'This is my story, This is my

song, I've been in the Army too 'bleeping' long!" In the book, Paul tells that "moving toward Abijao, **Sail Jackman** was wounded...later he and a pilot were evacuated by helicopter. Jackman died a day later. That was the only time I saw a helicopter during the war". Later in the narrative, he tells that "**Don Johnson**, **Matt Mastel**, **Pete Perrino**, **Bob Fenton**, & **John Cusson** were all killed that day".

Well, that's all I can write today. Sincerely, **Mary M. Dickerson** (writing for **Paul Dickerson**), 1630 E. Maple NW, North Canton, OH 44720



Above, Paul, 1943 -- Paul A. & Mary M. Dickerson, 22 May 2006



Secretary of the Army Recommends Medal of Honor

The Secretary of the Army announced in the letter below that he recommends Woodrow W. Keeble for the Medal of Honor. The announcement to an ecstatic crowd of friends, family, and veterans in Wahpeton, ND, on May 31st during a ceremony at the Hawkins-Keeble, to replace those lost or given away over the years. The next step is approval from the Secretary of Defense.



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON
MAY 31 2006



Photo by Lt Col (ret) Bill Prokopyk

Above: Senator Kent Conrad Hawkins (grandson), Russell Cyrus Hawkins (grandson). Sergeant Keeble's widow. Disasters were presented to Senator Conrad.

The Honorable Byron L. Dorgan
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Dorgan:

I am writing in response to a request from Senators Johnson, Daschle, and Thune to award the Medal of Honor to then – Master Sergeant Woodrow W. Keeble.

...

In accordance with our normal procedures, the Senior Army Decorations Board initially reviewed this request and submitted it to me with its recommendation. After giving this request my careful and personal consideration, it is my recommendation that the award of the Medal of Honor is the appropriate award to recognize Master Sergeant Woodrow W. Keeble's gallant acts.

This brave Soldier clearly distinguished himself through his courageous actions. The Army and our Nation are forever grateful for his heroic service.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of this brave American.

Sincerely,

Francis J. Harvey

Awards and Citations at top of page: Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star (OLC) & "V" Device, Purple Heart, Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal w/ 4 bronze stars, Occupation Medal w/Japan campaign, Service Medal, United Nations Presidential Unit Citation (2nd Award), US Navy Presidential Philippines Presidential Unit Citation (K), Meritorious Unit Presidential Unit Citation (K), Heroic Action Presidential Unit Citation (K).

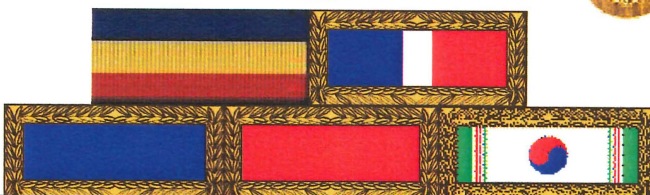
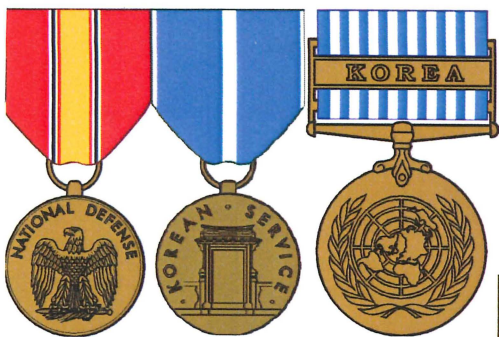
Page Design & Content: Lt Col (ret) Bill Prokopyk

W
W
II

Americal Division
164th Infantry Regiment

K
O
R
E
A

24th Division
19th Infantry Regiment



Honor for 'Woody'

of Honor. Senator Kent Conrad made the surprise y to present a set of service medals to Mrs. Blossom ase, then final approval by President Bush.



, Major General Michael J. Haugen, Woody Hawkins (stepson), Sandra Melius (niece), eated, Dr. Blossom Hawkins-Keeble, Master played is one of the Morning Star Quilts that nrad and General Haugen during the awards

page (Left to Right):

Silver Star, Bronze Star w/1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart w/3 OLC, Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Army Distinguished Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Korean War Service Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Presidential Unit Citation (WWII), Republic of the Philippines Presidential Unit Citation (WWII), US Army Presidential Unit Citation (K), Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation (K), Honorable Service Lapel Button (WWII)

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'Chief' should get Medal of Honor

Excerpt from *The Bismarck Tribune* Editorial 04-14-2006
Reprinted courtesy Ken Rogers, *The Bismarck Tribune*

When the Medal of Honor Memorial in Roosevelt Park [Minot, ND] reaches completion, the name of Woodrow Wilson Keeble should be displayed. "Chief" Keeble's name is presently ineligible to be included, but it should be...The honor is long overdue. The inspiring story of Woodrow Wilson Keeble's courage in battle ... will be retold in a documentary being made by a Fargo filmmaker. People may ask, "Why now? Keeble died in 1982." The answer is that a posthumous awarding of the medal would be done now for the sake of Master Sgt. Keeble's Korean War comrades-in-arms, his remaining family members, and his Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux people. And those Korean War veterans are becoming fewer each day. That's why timeliness is a factor. That, and to correct the inexplicable injustice in his having been recommended twice before, in 1951, and both times the paperwork was supposedly "misplaced." There should be no overlooking Keeble now, because...Sen. Tim Johnson, D-SD, and...Sen. Kent Conrad, D-ND, will keep pressing for the medal for Keeble until it is awarded to his widow.

It will be then that a sixth American Indian will join the five who were awarded the nation's highest military honor in the 20th century, citing their "gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of ... life above and beyond the call of duty" while engaging an enemy in combat.

"Chief," as the men of Keeble's company called him, should be numbered with Jack Montgomery, a Cherokee; Ernest Childers, a Creek; Van Barfoot, a Choctaw; Mitchell Red Cloud Jr., a Winnebago; and Charles George, a Cherokee. The last two mentioned were in the Korean War, as was Keeble, and with the others he was in World War II, where he survived the fighting on Guadalcanal. Master Sgt. Keeble's name also should be numbered among the 3,461 honored with the medal since 1862, members of many races, including one Theodore Roosevelt, whose Medal of Honor also was shamefully delayed, coming in 2001, 82 years after that hero's death.

The nation should give overdue honor to a man whom his platoon leader, now an old man, remembers clearly as "the best soldier I ever served with."

Awards Ceremony for Woody's Family by Linda Heltemes

As the family of M/Sgt Keeble did not have a complete set of his medals in their possession, a set was presented Wednesday, 31 May 2006, by Senator Kent Conrad D-ND, and Major General Michael Haugen.

Russell Hawkins, Keeble's stepson and Superintendent of the Sisseton Bureau of Indian Affairs, opened the event; the ceremony was emceed by Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Tribal Chairman Jerry Flute. Chaplain (MAJ) David Johnson gave the opening prayer, and Mr. David Seaboy who is Native American and a Korean War Veteran--offered a Dakota prayer.

Senator Conrad and General Haugen spoke eloquently about M/Sgt Keeble's selflessness, sacrifice, and courage. Senator Conrad was one of a very few people in the room who knew that the Secretary of the Army had favorably reviewed the recommendation for a Medal of Honor; in fact, the press release from Wash, DC, to a local news agency arrived just moments prior to the event. When Senator Conrad shared this wonderful news with the crowd, the place erupted!



In tribute to M/Sgt Keeble's Native American Heritage, Danny Seaboy and the Wahpekute Drum Group performed honor songs, one of which was created especially for M/Sgt Keeble. The Sisseton Vietnam Veterans Color Guard (all Native American) was joined by the Wahpeton Color Guard at this event.

Morning Star Quilts

More than just gorgeous—
they are Sacred!



To give a Star Quilt is to show the utmost respect, honor, admiration to a person. They are gifted away after certain ceremonies, offered to guests, or given to recognize a life event. It is wrapped around the recipient's shoulders like an embrace. Old Star Quilts are never thrown away, but are always used, treasured and loved forever. The older they get, the more valuable they become....and it's cultural history in the making.

Above, Tribal Chairman Jerry Flute stands in front of a quilt that was presented to Merry Helm in respect for her enthusiastic and diligent quest to obtain the highest level of recognition for Woodrow Wilson Keeble's heroic service.

Keeble's fellow veterans Ervin Koehler, Jerome Hipp, and Les Aldrich were present, and a "preview" of the future film documentary featured unit member Larry Gay, now historian for the 24th Infantry Division Association. Brig Gen Duane Holly also attended the ceremony. He served with Keeble, and their bond was--and still is--amazing. The Wahpeton combined VFW/ Legion donated and prepared food for everyone.

General Haugen's office, Senator Conrad's office, and Tribal Chairman Flute's office helped me organize the event. Cass County Veterans Service Officer Jim Brent ordered the awards through Senator Conrad's office. I appreciate very much the efforts of SFC Kim Palmer, Reserve Center Manager; Reserve Center Marines (SSGT Zehnacker & CAPT Polanski); Lt Col (ret.) William Prokopyk, protocol, coordination, & photography; Senator Conrad's aides--Shawn Ferguson, Christopher Gaddie, & Kelsey Rood--were some of the most accommodating people I have ever met. As for the Sisseton Oyate Tribal Members, I have never before witnessed such heartfelt and instantaneous support. They are a "warrior society," and they know the price and the value of our freedom. M/Sgt Keeble is legendary among this Tribe.

Also, please note Merry and I will soon begin our second round of filming for the documentary. This will involve events similar to those we organized in February, wherein we brought in retired soldiers who served with M/Sgt Keeble, and spent time getting to know them. During those events, we filmed them speaking on behalf of M/Sgt Keeble. As I learned a great deal in February, hopefully, I will be even more adept with my role during this "round." I'll also be seeking donations, which is not something Merry or I particularly enjoy doing...but for Woody, I'd pretty much do anything. I know he would for me, too. And with Merry Helm in the lead, I have to believe that victory is inevitable. Her dedication to this project is extraordinary!

THIS PROJECT CAN USE YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT!

For further information regarding the efforts to have the Medal of Honor posthumously awarded to Keeble or the creation of a film documentary, please contact Merry Helm, Writer/Producer (pictured at right) email mhelm@cableone.net or 701-293-5045 or Linda Heltemes, Project Coordinator (pictured left) email LindaHeltemes@aol.com or 218-329-8889



55th Anniversary Reunion

Service Company, 164th Infantry Regiment (47th Division)

Korean era veterans celebrated the 55th anniversary of their call to active duty at a reunion held 16 January 2006 in Devils Lake.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
Office of the Adjutant General
Bismarck

it
5 January 1951

GENERAL ORDERS)
)
NO.....1)

1. The following units of the North Dakota National Guard are ordered into Active Military Service of the United States, 16 January 1951, pursuant to Paragraphs 1 - 6, General Order 197, Headquarters Fifth Army, Chicago, Illinois, 28 December 1950, extracts thereof effecting the North Dakota National Guard are quoted below:

NAME, GRADE	ASN	NAME, GRADE	ASN
MAJOR (O-4)		MASTER SERGEANTS (E-7)	
Brown, Henry T.	0374577	Johnson, Bernard D.	27733427
CAPTAIN (O-3)		Shaver, Kenneth B.	20710247
Walter, Joseph R.	0948527	Sparks, Elbert R.	27733490
FIRST LIEUTENANT (O-2)		SERGEANTS FIRST CLASS (E-6)	
Howes, Kenneth O.	01333473	Eisenzimmer, Raymond P.	27733384
SECOND LIEUTENANT (O-1)		Mikkelsen, Norman R.	27733394
Hagen, Orville J.	0969975	Reiger, Wendelin J.	27733378
CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER (W-2)		Schneider, Adam L.	27733380
Hall, Hildreth W.	W2105011	SERGEANTS (E-5)	
WARRANT OFFICER JUNIOR GRADE (W-2)		Buckner, Norman A.	27733416
Berg, Howard O.	0963119	Gefroh, Donald J.	27733392
Hall, Stanley B.	W2004300	Gerrells, Jay W.	27733390
SERGEANTS (E-5)		PRIVATES (E-2)	
Idland, Raymond A.	37029734	Streifel, Ferdinand J.	27733401
Melhouse, Vernon J.	20710240	Young, Clair L.	27733430
Moffet, Roy W.	27733423	RECRUITS (E-1)	
Nyland, John L.	27733389	Alvestad, Robert E.	27733485
Pederson, John H.	27733413	Anderson, Howard V.	27733480
Putnam, Paul H.	27733411	Anderson, Kenneth O.	27733494
Reister, Emil R.	27733370	Berdahl, Marlen J.	27733504
Rondeau, Andrew A.	27733412	Berg, Roy H.	27733505
Samuelson, Robert R.	27733419	Bird, Lloyd	27733476
Schneider, Anthony B.	27733397	Bragg, Howard E.	27733470
Thompson, Walter E.	17186376	Cruse, Robert D.	27733479
Zettler, William J.	27733454	Dahl, Dennis O.	27733501
CORPORALS (E-4)		Davidson, Donald R.	27733447
Eisenzimmer, Floyd G.	27733451	Faul, Clinton E.	27733503
Englehart, Charles H.	27733437	Freije, Alfred A.	27733471
Finseth, Mack H.	27733446	Fugelseth, Einar R.	27733492
Hager, Adam	27733445	Garrison, David J.	27733477
Hager, Paul	27733448	Geske, Lando L.	27733500
Holcom, Richard P.	27733436	Gibbons, Albert R.	27733482
Kurtz, Balzer L.	27733408	Grunenwald, Carl W.	27733488
Lorenz, Charles J.	27733391	Haakenson, Galen O.	27733496
Nelson, Albert J.	27733456	Heustis, Richard D.	27733487
Peterson, Wayne C.	27733407	Huber, Frank G.	27733464
Pfleiger, Jake D.	27733438	Johnson, Vernon L.	27733463
Senger, Edward G.	27733398	Jones, Charles Z.	27733489
Serumgard, Harold F.	27733441	Keller, Clarence J.	27733473
Stevens, Richard G.	27733417	Keller, Leonard P.	27733469
Sullivan, John B.	27733405	Knutson, Lester O.	27733493
Swanson, Leo G.	27733435	Knutson, Merlyn N.	27733502
PRIVATES FIRST CLASS (E-3)		Koapke, William D.	27733467
Dahlen, George M.	27733420	Kuntz, Michael P.	27733478
Ellingson, Eldrid C.	27733458	Lamb, Robert J.	27733495
Hagen, Eldon B.	27733424	Martinson, Russell S., Jr.	27733498
Henley, Jack A.	27733422	McNeese, Don V.	27733499
Kraft, Albert L.	27733402	Midstokke, Ancil H.	27733462
Schell, Donald J.	27733399	Miller, Keith M.	27733474
Togstad, Joel L.	27733450	Ness, Harold W.	27733481
Togstad, Leland D.	27733457	Niclai, Richard W.	27733466
Wentz, Leo	27733444	Olson, Donald L.	27733468
PRIVATES (E-2)		Schnetter, William V.	27733486
Doyle, Eugene G.	27733442	Selzler, Lawrence A.	27733491
Kiedrowski, Albert W.	27733455	Senger, Wendelin T.	27733497
Kurtz, Timothy	27733440	Soper, Roger D.	27733472
Minette, Robert J.	27733443	Tronson, David	27733484
Ness, Robert W.	27733426	Weber, Joseph	27733483
Smoke, Leroy H.	27733428	Zettler, Edward L.	27733475

Dear Ben:

Bruce Hagen called and asked me to send you the reunion registration list along with the names and addresses of the ones who attended. Enclosed is that information and hoping it's complete as needed. Am also sending you a program and the letter announcing the reunion that I thought you might like to see. If anything else is needed, feel free to let us know. Sincerely, Bernice Ness, Secretary [Svc Co]

The following 164th Infantry Association members attended the reunion: **Wendelin Reiger, Tim Kurtz, Ray Eisenzimmer, Balzer Kurtz, Robert Cruse, Kenneth Shaver**, all from Devils Lake; **Harvey Sand, Langdon; Bruce Hagen**, Bismarck.

These folks have joined the 164th Inf Assoc since they attended the reunion: **George Dahlen**, Edmore, ND;

Others who attended (who should be 164 Association members ☺): **Eddie Senger, Harland Pederson, Leo Swanson, Leon Timboe, John Nyland, Bob Ness, Bob Alvestad**, all from Devils Lake; **Bob Lamb**, Michigan, ND; **Kenny Anderson**, Lakota, ND; **David Tronson**, Doyon, ND; **Michael Kuntz**, Dent, MN; and **Harald Serumgard**, Robbinsdale, MN

And Special Mention: **Joel Togstad**, Devils Lake, who passed away 6 Feb 06 [See Last Roll Call, Page 2]



Above: Ken Shaver, Harland Pederson, and Bob Ness pose during a reunion planning session. Photo by Mike Bellmore, Devils Lake Daily Journal. Used with permission from Louise Oleson, Editor.

The 164th Infantry Regiment mobilized to Camp Rucker, AL, where it trained soldiers in combat skills. About 800 soldiers from the Regiment were transferred to other units to serve in the Korean Theatre of Operations.



If you served in Korea between 5 Jun 50 - 27 Jul 53, you may be eligible for the Korean War Service Medal. See page 12, March 2005 issue for full details, or request an application form from Sec/Treas Ben.

DUES, NEWS, & VIEWS FROM MEMBERS & FRIENDS

4 Mar 06 Here are 2006 dues. Not AWOL, just forgetful!
George H. Dingley, 1763 Wellesley Ln, Indianapolis, IN

4 Mar 06 I am writing to tell you about the spelling of my last name. It should be PEDERSEN, not Pederson.
Gerald Pedersen, 442 7th St NW, Valley City, ND 58072.
Ed—It has been fixed! Your “e” is intact!

7 Mar 06 Dear Editor: Just a note to clean up my mailing address. My 2006 membership card is correct, but...I get 2 copies of the *164 Infantry News*—one to Osborne J. Arlien (me) and one to Arlien Osborne (this is NOT me), so let's settle on this name and address: **Osborne J. Arlien**, 6499 Hart Ave SW, PO Box 238, Howard Lake, MN 55349-0238. PS I think that you are doing a great job on the *News*. Thanks. *Ed—It's fixed! We deleted your alter ego.*

7 Mar 06 Enclosed find a check for \$20 as a donation to the 164th Newsletter in memory of my Dad—**Bill Love**, Rugby, ND. I think it is so important to keep the memories alive of all the heroes who served their country so proudly and honorably. Thank you for your efforts. Sincerely,
Colleen Van Sweringen* (LM), 6040 NW Michaelbrook Lane, Camas, WA 98607

Mar 06 Dear Sirs: I enjoyed the article about Woody Keeble [in the Mar 06 issue]. My husband was in the same area at the same time. It often brought back painful memories to him. He passed away at age 97, March 31st, 2005. We didn't make it to our 62nd anniversary and his 98th birthday, January 30th. I miss him. I'm paying for the paper and other costs. Sincerely, **Euretta E. Poe***, 1226 Main St, Williston, ND 58801

Mar 06 Please add me to your mailing list. I enjoy military history and **Alvin Tollefsrud** (WWII) shared your newsletter with me. The address is **Keith Burck**, 3702 River Drive, Fargo, ND 58104

Mar 06 Bernie: Believe this check for 164 dues should be sent to Pat, but could not locate her address in the 164 News. We are doing OK. Hope to visit V.C. in July if plans work out. Say hello to the “Vets Group” at their Tues AM meeting! **Deforest S. Peterson**, 400 Avinger Ln, Apt 140, Davidson, ND 28036

FYI: 164 dues go to Sec/Treas, POB 1111, Bismarck, ND

15 Mar 06 Dear Shirley, Here is \$25 for the Newsletter and whatever. I am hoping to go this year to the reunion; it will be my first one, my wife had cancer and died 2 years ago, it has been tough. but I hope to see you there. I was in 164, Co C, 1st Bn, 1st Squad. I joined the company in Cebu, went to Los Negros and Japan. I hope to see someone at the reunion from Co C. **Ben Rosalez**, 4317 Belle Dr, Antioch, CA 94509-3936 *Ed note: We're glad your daughter, Cynthia, helped us find you thru the Americal website, and we look forward to meeting you!!!!*

11 Mar 06 Dear Ben: Please accept my check for \$15.00 for subscription to the 164th Infantry News (the extra \$5 can go for expenses!) I was a member of the **Regimental Headquarters Company** from Jan 1941 until the unit left for Bougainville. I was in the hospital at the time and was left behind! Was a radio operation and scout. Now 85 and still doing OK. Shirley gave me a call and sent me the “News” after seeing my name in “Guadalcanal Echoes” – tell her the paper is terrific!! Sincerely, **Cliff Kurtz**, 6727 N Pershing Ave, Stockton, CA 95207-2522

23 Mar 06 Dear Ben. Thanks for the membership card. Glad to be aboard, finally! The “News” Shirley sent me was the Oct 05 issue. Yes, I would like a copy of the latest one. Several of my old buddies were listed in the Oct issue. One of my tent mates (from the Camp Claiborne days), Elmer Montgomery, was mentioned. Sincerely, **Cliff Kurtz**. PS I have some photos of the Camp. Interested? *Ed note: YES!!! I'm always interested in pix!*

Mar 06. Hi! I belonged to the 164th Assoc until 1998 and somehow was dropped. I would like to be reinstated. Dates of Service: Jan 51- Dec 52, Rank: Sergeant. **George M. Dahlen**, 103 Adams St, Box 276, Edmore, ND 58330 *Ed note—see Svc Co Reunion story on page 14*

Mar 06 Enclosed is a check for \$30. Please make me an associate member. As per my phone call, my Dad (**Clarence J. Dalzell**) passed away on 2 Jan 06. He was 89½ and often talked about the 164th Infantry Association. **Louis J. Dalzell**, 737 112th Ave NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55448 *Ed note: after a suggestion from Ben, Mr. Dalzell sent in another \$20 and joined up for LIFE!*

25 Mar 06 Ben: Attached is \$50 for Life Membership to the 164th Infantry Association. I was with the 164th Infantry, **Co B**, at Edgeley, ND. At the present time, I am the ND AMVETS Department Commander for 2005-2006. Thank you. Sincerely, **Wilbert I. “Willie” Dallmann**, 413 6th Ave NE, Valley City, ND 58072

24 Mar 06 Dear sir: I have enclosed a check for \$10 to renew membership in the 164th Infantry Association. I talked to **Louis Hanson** of Jamestown and he gave me the address and he thought the dues are \$10. I was a member a number of years ago. Back then I worked with putting on a couple of the 164 reunions held in Jamestown.

I served with **K Company** from **Dickinson**, went to **Camp Rucker** with the outfit, and then on to **Korea** to serve in the **2nd Infantry Division** ('51-'52). Hanson tells me the organization puts out a real good newsletter which I would appreciate receiving. If you need anything to finalize my membership, let me know. Thank you.
Roger S. Smith, 1739 4th Ave NE, Jamestown, ND 58401



DUES, NEWS, & NOTES SENT IN WITH TICKET STUBS!

Enclosed \$15 for raffle and extra \$5 for the newsletter, which is GREAT! Thanks for the good work. **Jan Rothrock**, 13101 Del Monte Dr Apt 279L, Seal Beach, CA

18 Mar 06 Greetings, Colonel. You did a fantastic job on our last newsletter. Congratulations on a job well done. I am enclosing two photos for you to see if either will be good for your next newsletter; if so, there is a story behind it. The picture was taken in Bougainville in 1944. [See story on Page 22] I am also sending you a check [\$100] for the newsletter fund to keep you busy and to keep it going, for those who cannot afford a donation so they may enjoy all your efforts in the newsletter. CSM (ret) **Joe Castagneto** (LM), 525 Howard Cir, Lincoln, AL 35096

22 Apr 06 Dear 164th Infantry Association: I would like to receive all available back issues of your newsletter, so I can get caught up. Dad (**Roy R. Summers**) passed in 1983. I do not know how many are left from his **Company "F"**—probably very few. I'm interested in speaking with the ones who are still around, about a Japanese flag that is in my possession. Sincerely, **Kevin M. Summers*** (LM), 1102 Westrac Dr S, Apt 201, Fargo, ND 58103

1 Apr 06 Hi Ms Olgeirson. The last news letter of the 164th Infantry is ONE OF THE BEST I have seen, and I showed it to several Veterans groups and they agreed. I am sending you a copy of the drill pay for a day. I can see why we have older men and women staying in the National Guard & Reserves—one can make a tidy sum over the years if used wisely. In a small town nearby, there is a family that had eight brothers who served in WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. Some record! Yours in comradeship, **Elliot J. Carey**, Sec/Treas **South Pacific Buddies Assoc**, 35 Nashua Rd, North Billerica, MA 01862-2004

To Whom: Seems but just a short time ago that I wrote a letter very much like this one. \$15 for tickets, \$25 for newsletter. Again, should I win any or all the prizes (wishful thinking!), please donate to the news letter, OK? Won't be able to attend the reunion, so am wishing everyone has a good time. Sincerely, **Otto E. Heath**, 235 S Beach Blvd Spc 113, Anaheim, CA 92804

Shirley & Ben: I was really impressed by the last newsletter and hope they keep coming! I am inclosing a check for \$50--\$15 for the raffle tickets and \$35 for the newsletter. Keep up the good work! Sincerely, **Harold Bjornstad**, 31707 Oakville Rd, Shedd, OR 97377

Am so grateful for the Newsletter. Have kept all the copies. What a marvelous history of some of the World War II stories that had not before been told. Memories too painful to be discussed before by those who had been there. Enclosed \$15. **Donna Hoff**, 1342 3rd St N, Fargo, ND

Dear All—Enclosed \$15, but I only got one book, so put my name on 3 more tickets or use the \$5 for whatever. Have a great reunion. Thanks for your newsletter! **Lois C. Hall**, PO Box 626, Sandpoint, ID 83864

Enclosed check for tickets. Thanks and I will look forward to the reunion! **Karl J Burckhart**, RR1 Bx 87, Dazey, ND

164th Infantry Association—Enclosed are \$15 for tickets, \$10 for dues, and \$10 for Newsletter. You do a great job on the newsletter. Bob was very proud of being in the 164th and really enjoyed the newsletters. Thank you. **Betty Anderson**, 601 12-1/2 Ave E Apt 5, W. Fargo, ND

\$15 for tickets and \$10 for the newsletter. **Carl Whitman**, 11D HS Hill Rd, Chilmark, MA 02535

Dear Pat: Enclosed are ticket stubs and my \$15 check. As of now, we plan to attend. We hope Bernie & Mary are doing OK. We are both doing OK. Hope to see the gang in Sept! **Pete & June Grant**, 4026 Bdwalk St, EauClaire, WI

Bernie. Thank you for remembering me. Sincerely, **Carmen Burgad**, POB 297, Napoleon, ND 58561

Find enclosed \$20 for tickets and whatever. See you in Sept! **Ed Otto**, 1009 18th St SW, Willmar, MN 56201

Enclosed is a check for \$15--\$10 for tickets & \$5 toward the newsletter. We've attended many reunions, and would still like to, but health problems keep us from attending. Hope you have a wonderful reunion. Sincerely **Bernard & Geraldine Scheer**, 1015 Century Ave SW, Apt 100 The Pines, Hutchinson, MN 55350

Bernie: Good luck with your ticket sales. Thank you for printing Howard Lauter's story & picture he gave me in the [Mar 06] newsletter. Can I get an extra Copy? *Ed- Yup!* **Frank Albrecht**, POB 506, Riegelsville, PA 18077

There was only 1 book of tickets. Enclosed is a check plus donation to newsletter. **Keith Burck**, 3702 River Dr, Fargo

I want to pay my dues and \$15 for tickets. I really enjoy getting the newsletter very much. Thank you guys who are involved in getting it together. Sincerely, **Tommy Evans**, 13621 Hwy 63S, Alexander City, AL 35010

Please cancel my membership. My health just isn't good enough for me to be interested. **Edward M. Fox**, 4347 Twin Post Rd, Dallas, TX 75244

Hi. I'm Elliot Carey of the 182nd Inf. I receive your newsletter and send our newsletter to your organization. I find your newsletter very informative and we steal articles out of it and expect you to do the same with our newsletter. Our letter is only for 1st Bn, 182nd, as we have a Regimental newsletter which takes members from day one until now, so we keep our own for World War II. Yours in Comradeship, **Elliot Carey**, 35 Nashua Rd, N. Billerica, MA 01862

I am enclosing a check for \$25. I don't know if I have paid my dues for the present year--if I have, then just put it in the general fund. Looking forward to the reunion as usual. **Vince "Swede" Clausen**, 777 Hamline Ave N Apt 1402, St Paul, MN 55104 *Ed—You're off the AWOL list, Swede!*

I will not be attending. **John Landowski**, 2200 S 29th St #43S, Grand Forks, ND 58201

Mar 06 Bernie: Wonderful magazine. Keep up the good work. See you in September! [Sent \$25] **Paul Buttke** (LM), 18 Vallejo St, Petaluma, CA 94952-3240

NEWS, VIEWS, NOTES SENT IN WITH TICKETSTUBS!

Bernie—Enclosed is a check for \$20--\$15 raffle and \$5 for the bulletin. **Lionel "Frenchie" Garant**, Co G, 71 Consul St, Fall River, MA 02720-7401

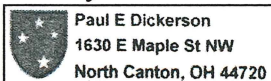
Mr. McAdow is in a nursing home and has been for several months. He fell a year ago in June – had a fracture of the spine. At this time, he is not doing well at all and not eating. He's very sorry he will not be able to attend. He says he still enjoys your newsletter. Best Regards. (Written for) **Hiram O. McAdow (LM)**, 1409 Maple St, Atchison, KS 66002-1118

Hi Patricia—Earl Wanted to support the 164th again this year. I sure do with he was able to travel there for the reunion, but it's just not possible. He is ding pretty good and we think he's settled OK in the Vet's Home in Spokane. It's just not like home. We did get his big chair and his nice big TV in his room and he's getting 3 nice meals a day. We don't get over to see him as often as we'd like (100 mile drive, one way). Gas



prices are extremely high. My husband and I go as often as we can, along with a few other friends. He sends his greeting to all of you in the 164th. He's a great guy and we think the world of him. He's a very patriotic American and his very proud of his service to our country. I am enclosing a recent photo of Earl. Thanks for all you do for our wonderful vets! Sincerely, **Doris Cobb**, for **Earl H. Johnson** c/o JL Cobb, 710 Fir, Coulee Dam, WA 99166

Hi Enclosed you will find a check to purchase raffle tickets (\$15), pay dues (\$10), and help fund the 164 News (\$10). It is always a high point in the day when the 164th Infantry News letter arrives. It is just getting better all the time. Thanks for doing so much hard work to make it happen. I'll bet if you got address labels made up, the veterans would buy them. It could raise a bit of money to fund the newspaper and other activities. Art Hanley "Co A", had these made up for Paul.



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

Check for \$25 enclosed. Put the balance in the Newsletter fund. I plan to attend, but not yet firmed. Col **A F "Al" Wiest**, 4924 Carole Dr NE, Olympia, WA 98516

Sorry I won't be able to attend the reunion, but am enclosing a contribution to cover the raffle tickets and a fund for the newsletter (\$85!!). The newsletter is terrific and I look forward to each issue! **Mary Kingston**, 210 E. Westwood Ln, Union, WA 98592

Hi. Hope you have a great reunion. I'll always remember how much my Dad (CJ "Jim" Livingood) looked forward to them! **Bonnie Mohagen**.

Hi! If I win, lemme know just for the helluvit, but keep the money! Put it in the treasury. Good Luck. **Tom Fischer**, 312 9th St N, Moorhead, MN 56560

Bernie—For tickets and use the rest (\$35) as you see fit. Take care! **Alex Macdonald**, 1405 Copperfield Ct, Fargo

Bernie--I'm sending \$20 for the 2 books of tickets. The \$5 goes for the newsletter. And if I win, give it to the Assoc! **Gordon Klipfel**, PO Box 129, Vail, AZ 85641

Enclosed a check for \$100--\$15 for tickets and rest of the money for Newsletter or anything else that you need a little cash for. Col **Wendel W. Wichmann**, 10701 Cardington Way, Apt 102, Cockeysville, MD 21030

Hello. Hope you have a successful convention and the Association continues to be active. Good Luck and prayers to all the members. Keep up the good work. The newsletter is well done—put to extra \$10 toward it. Thanks! Sincerely, **Andrew Trageser**, 1163 Fawn Grove Rd, New Park, PA 17352

Hi Bernie. Hope the reunion goes well. Say hello to the gang for me. I haven't been to any in a few years for I have an ill wife. We enjoyed the reunions that we used to go to. **Nicholas Ostapchuk**, 582 Ramona St, Rochester, NY 14615. PS I have an old roster of the men of the 164th. *Editor: would you please send us a copy?*

Thanks much for the fine newsletter we receive. I don't know many of you, but helps me to keep informed of the **Clarence's** friends and comrades. Sincerely, **Ellenora Schultz**, 3512 Stoneridge Pl, Bismarck, ND 58503

My father, **Clarence M. Slais**, is no longer taking care of his own financial affairs. Out of respect for my father and what he has done for his country, I will continue with these tickets and Dad's dues to the 164th Infantry until his death. Please send all mailings for my father to my address. Both my parents are now residing in a Lutheran Home for the Aged. Dad will be 90 in June and is doing quite well. **Shirley J Larson**, 8054 149th Ave NW, Grenora, ND 58845

Hi Bernie. Just a note to let you know how much I appreciate you taking on all this work. I think it's just wonderful you can keep the few we have left together. It is just too bad some of the larger cities can't take over. I'll try to get some of the boys to come out if possible. Sorry I haven't been coming to Valley, but my back is giving me a lot of trouble—I still get around but I had to give up my dancing. **George Hopkins**, 513 6th Av SE, Jamestown, ND

Bernie: Plan to be there in Sept. Health pretty good. Lyle Mollet of the 164th Medics died Feb 21 in Mesa, buried in Madison, WI. Maybe the News has already been notified. Extra money (\$15) is for the 164 News. **Gerald "Sandy" Sanderson**, 2150 80th St NE, Willow City, ND 58384

Dear Friend Bernie. Thanks for all you do in keeping the Association alive and working. If any of these numbers win, keep the prize for the organization. Apply the added amount of this check (\$35) for the newsletter, which is wonderfully done. The March 06 issue, about Woody and others was heart rendering and beautiful. Best wishes to you and all members. **Robert J "Bob" Alin**, 867 Oak St, West Fargo, ND 58078



Comments Regarding the March 2006 “MEMORY PAGES”



RE: Marion MINKS [March 06, page 9]

Hi..... [Dad] certainly **did** enjoy the newsletter and was "disappointed" only in the fact that I received my copy before he did. He anticipated and knew which day it would arrive as well as the hour that the mailman would deliver it. I'm sure it has been read cover to cover many times by now! Thank you very much for this service once again. I enjoy hearing him talk about the memories which he now shares more often and seems to thrive on more than ever. Please know that your concerted efforts on behalf of these men and women are greatly appreciated! (and yes, I enjoyed it very much too!) Sincerely, Terry Minks

RE: George MACHADO [March 06, page 9]

Dear Shirley, Wow! Thanks so much. [for putting a notice about my grandfather in the News]. That was a wonderful idea! I was so touched. I can't wait to show my family. You're the best!! Thank you, Lisa Marrs l.marrs@sbcglobal.net

RE: TOLLIVER [March 2006, page 6, and SUCCESS Story, This Issue, page 11!]

Dear Shirley. We have just gone through a week or so of cold, rainy weather, so we took the time as an opportunity to go rummaging through some old 164 newsletters. One is a reunion photo from 1989—we're trying to locate the color original, but no luck yet. *(Ed note—when they find it, I'll print it!)* I am enclosing some pictures from which you may choose for your write-up. I enjoyed helping this daughter of a service man, as I know how much respect these daughters have for their dads. Thank you very much for a superb newsletter. It is a vital link that keeps these guys in touch with one another. Each time the newsletter comes out, then phone calls start up and the memories get renewed once more! Best regards, **Mary M. & Paul Dickerson.** *[Ed note—A couple of their photos will be used in the future; two are on pg 11 of this issue].*

Didja Know...All soldiers throughout the force, regardless of deployment status, are directed to wear the US Flag on the right shoulder the battle dress uniform. The **full color US flag cloth replica** is worn so that the star field faces forward, to the flag's own right, and gives the effect of the flag flying in the breeze as the wearer moves forward. (Army Reg 670-1)

While searching for a photo that showed this, I discovered that Army soldiers now assigned to the 1st Marines are authorized to wear THE PATCH. That's interesting, because the Marines themselves have not been authorized to wear shoulder sleeve insignia since just after WWII!

"Shortly after the end of the war, Colonel Merrill Twining [the patch creator] went to Marine Commandant General Vandegrift saying that he 'no longer thought Marines should wear anything on their uniforms to distinguish them from other Marines'. Vandegrift agreed and the patches came off for good."

— Benis M. Frank, www.americal.org

I verified this by looking in the current Marine Corps Uniform Regulation, & found no authorization for Marines to wear any shoulder sleeve insignia. The Army has not been authorized to wear this patch since WWII, according to AR 670-1.



17Aug05 Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Brown, a Soldier assigned to the 1st Marine Division, provides security for Iraqi and U.S. Soldiers at Forward Operating Base Scunior. Photo by Staff Sgt. Suzanne Day, posted at www.army.mil

Dominick Amoroso was in **Company E**, and served in the following campaigns: **1943--New Caledonia, Bougainville. Fiji, 1945 -- Philippine Islands, Leyte, Cebu, Negros, Japan, Tokyo, Yokohama.** He received the Bronze Star. His son would like to hear from anyone who knew him. Contact your Editor if you remember him.

164th Infantry Regiment Scholarship

The 164th Infantry Regiment Scholarship Foundation sent notices to University Financial Aid Departments to announce the offering of \$500 scholarships for the Fall 2006 – Spring 2007 year, based on funds available. The applicants must be junior/senior college level History or Social Science majors. Students must complete an application form and write a researched essay on the history and campaigns of North Dakota's 164th Infantry Regiment. Applications are due 1 September for next Spring's Semester; the deadline has passed for this Fall Semester. Information and applications are available from Warren Ventsch, PO Box 515, Valley City, ND 58072, ph 701-845-4450.

SUCCESS STORIES!!! NEW MEMBERS FIND FRIENDS THRU THE NEWS



Reference: John Cochran Story [March 2006, page 9]

Hello Shirley, I got the new 164th Infantry news the other day. The article about Uncle John is really great! And guess what!....I already have been contacted by the daughter of a good friend of yours (**Norman Samson**) who says he remembered Uncle John from those days. I spent the better part of an hour talking with Norman. He was not just an acquaintance, but a very good friend who actually hung out with him from Guadalcanal through Negros. He told me little things about John that related some of their experiences together on the islands. He was actually riding in the jeep with John when they were involved in an accident. Apparently John and another friend has stolen a jeep from the motor pool, got tanked up and lost control of the vehicle on their way to a party at a small village not far from the base. He told me of a time on **Cebu** when the Japanese had flanked them while crossing a river and had opened up on them with MG's. Their sergeant ordered them to pull back, but John wanted to stay and get it on with them. Stuff like this is priceless information and I am so glad that you contacted me when you did. Norman is 85 years old, but his mind is sharp as a tack. It is amazing that to me that he knows you so well I believe he met you during the return trip to Guadalcanal. Anyway, I thought you might like to know that I have come a long way and the end of the road is in sight.



Hello Shirley, I thought I would let you know that my wife and I went down and visited Norm Samson and his lovely wife of over 60 years, Virginia, this weekend. We spent over three hours with them. Norm and I talked about his WWII adventures with the 164th and Virginia and Cheryl talked about a lot of things that women talk about and they picked a bunch of delicious oranges, tangerines and nectarines from their small orchard in the backyard. They are a great older couple. Norman seems to be in pretty good health for 85 and Virginia is a real sweetheart. Norman's memory is so good he can actually remember years and dates. Hell....I can't even do that. He provided me some great insight into Uncle John's time in the PTO. Norman had his medals and decorations in a display box and I copied them down as well as taking a picture. These are the identical decorations that Uncle John was entitled to and I am going to contact the VA to see if they will issue them to me.

Norman told me that these decorations were not automatically handed out by the military, but that each individual soldier had to apply for them. I am reasonably sure that Uncle John never applied for them so perhaps the VA will give them to me. We will see. All in all....another great day in the search for my Uncle John. Thanks again for the help. Michael Davis . mjandddavis@cox.net

April 19, 2006

UNCLE JOHN'S STORY by Michael J. Davis

My first memory of my late Uncle John Cochran was when my mother and I would visit my Aunt Ann in Hamilton, Missouri. I would see him sitting in my Aunt's bar playing cards and having probably too many beers. But he was always glad to see me and even though I was just a little shaver he always made me feel welcome. I knew early on he loved the suds and I knew of his reputation as a free soul and a wanderer, but what I didn't know until much later was what drove Uncle John to be the person he was. My mother told me that Uncle John had been in the **Army, had fought the Japanese in World War II,** and that he had been involved with a place called **Guadalcanal.**

Later on in life, as I began to study World War II, especially the **Pacific Theatre,** I wondered...What did Uncle John do?...Where did he go?...What did he see?...What were his experiences? I decided to find out and set out on a search for his military history. When I began I had nothing but a name and a picture that told me Uncle John had been a sergeant. Being a Vietnam era veteran I knew from the insignia on his uniform that he was Infantry, but the patch on his shoulder remained a mystery.

I found a web site on the internet that detailed **Guadalcanal** and I placed an inquiry there asking if anyone could tell me where I could gain information about my Uncle John.

Uncle John's Story (continued)

Shortly thereafter, I received a reply from a Missouri gentleman named **Larry Schuermann** that would cause me to embark on a three year journey through the archives of the Veterans Administration. Through an exchange of many e-mails between Larry and me, we determined that Uncle John had served with the **Americal Division** which in turn led me to [their] web site. There I found a book entitled "**Under the Southern Cross**" which chronicled the history and military events of the Americal Division as it moved through the Pacific Theatre of Operations. Although I now knew where Uncle John went I still had not found out what outfit he was with within the Americal and without that information all I really had was a historical military account of their battles and victories.

Then Larry did an extraordinary thing to help me along. He visited my Uncle's grave in north central Missouri. The gravestone opened the door a little wider in that I now had John's birth date and also his rank. Another letter went out to the VA with this added information with the hope that these additional clues would bring his records to the surface. I continued to pursue Uncle John's military history but with little success. I needed that VA info. I followed up with the VA with letter after letter asking their assistance and then one day.....a big manila envelope showed up on my doorstep from the VA. Here were 130 pages of my late Uncle's medical records which gave me all the information I was looking for. Now I knew who he was with, where he went, when he went there. I followed him from **Guadalcanal to Bougainville to Leyte, Cebu, & Negros**. I went back to "Under the Southern Cross" and highlighted every reference to **HQ Co, 1st Bn, 164th Infantry**, and virtually walked with him every step of the way.

Then one day, I got this crazy idea that just maybe there was someone still left out there who was with him and wouldn't it be a real experience to actually speak with someone who knew him in those days. Back to the internet. I posted an inquiry on the **Americal Website Locator**, and was contacted by your editor. By return email, I told her of my search and my intentions. She suggested that I send her the picture of Uncle John and she would publish it in the newsletter asking if there was someone out there who remembered him. The newsletter was published in March and within days I was contacted by the daughter of **Norman Samson**. Norman had told her that he knew John, had been with him in **HQ Co**, and they had been together for 42 months of active duty as the Americal moved through the Pacific.



The added bonus to this is that **Norman** lives only 60 miles away from me in Southern California. I contacted him and he invited us to come spend an afternoon with him and **his lovely wife of 60 years, Virginia**. I spent three hours talking with Norman about his and Uncle John's experiences in the Pacific while my wife and Virginia talked girl talk and picked the most delicious oranges on the planet from their backyard trees.

Norman spared me the gruesome details of the task the free world had sent them do, but ensured me that my Uncle John was a good soldier, a hard worker, and a good friend. And in the end, I guess that is all I really wanted to know and all that matters.

Norman also told me that he and Donald "Dutch" Well are the only surviving members of HQ Co, 1st Bn, 164th Infantry Regiment, and I find it extremely fortunate that I was able to make this contact. Norman's personal input about my Uncle told me that he was indeed the hero I always thought he was and I am proud to be his nephew.

I am now in the process of trying to procure John's medals and citations from the VA to create a historical legacy to pass down to my family so that his memory will live for generations to come. This was a great journey and if this story reaches any of the younger generations

I recommend that you involve yourself with the history of these fine young men and women who went to war so long ago to preserve the freedom that we enjoy today. We are losing these brave soldiers at an alarming daily rate so please do it now....before it is too late.

Thanks to all the people who helped me along the way: Mr. Larry Schuermann who started me on the journey and kept my nose to the stone and never let me bail out; Mr. Richard Haddock, VA, who I am sure got really tired of reading my many letters; Lt Col. Shirley Olgeirson, Ret. (your Editor) who was so very nice to publish Uncle John's picture and hopefully this story... and who, by the way, seriously needs a vacation; & Mr. **Norman Samson**, who gave me the personal insight into my Uncle's history and made me understand that he was a friend to everyone he met.

And finally, thanks to all the veterans of the Americal Division and the entire armed forces, who sacrificed their youth and dreams without question to ensure that freedom, liberty, and justice for all would prevail over oppression and tyranny in a world gone mad so many years ago.

---Michael J. Davis*, 4 Tepolito, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA, 92688 Email: mjandcdavis@cox.net

Spaghetti a la Bougainville by SGM (ret) Joseph Castagneto

I was with a group of replacements that was assigned to **A Company, 164**. It seems like most of us were of Italian descent. As the days passed, we got to know each other and talked about our home towns and how we missed our Mother's cooking during the Christmas and New Year holidays. We decided to write home for any ingredients we could receive to make a good dish of Spaghetti. In the month of **March, 1944**, we received packages from home. We scrounged around and came up with a 20 lb coffee can, two No 10 cans, and 2 mountain stoves. We had a Mess Tent but there wasn't anything we could use, because all their utensils were too large for what we had to cook. The next problem was, "Who is going to make the sauce?" From the stories we previously told, I was elected. By trial and error it turned out pretty good. The aroma was in the air and we had visitors from the company coming around with their mess gear hoping to get a mouth full, but we didn't have enough to feed these hungry dogs.



That was the last opportunity to have a taste of home. Things started to move fast and we were patrolling and fighting to get rid of the Japanese on the Island.

The Lucky Spaghetti slurpers:

Bottom Row L -R:

(on tree) Pvt **Peter Perrino**, Providence, RI;

Pvt **Charles Campo**, Rifleman, 2nd Plt, Boston;

Pvt **Joseph Rigguso**, Rifleman, 2nd Plt, CT;

PFC **Joseph Castagneto**, Asst Sqd Ldr, 1st Sqd, 1st Plt, Somerville, MA.

Top Row (standing) L-R:

Sgt **Leo Berlatta**, Mortarman, 4th Plt;

Pvt **Haden Brown**, BAR, 1st Sqd, 1st Plt, NC;

TSGt **Harold "The Nose" Caya**, 1st Sqd Ldr, 1st Plt, ND.

Your Drill sergeant didn't tell you the truth about...

The Real Reason for the "Notch" in the WWII Dog Tag

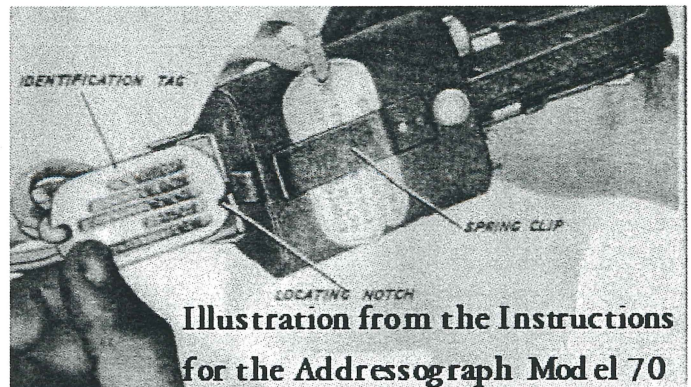
Editor's note: The short comment about the dog tag notch on pg 18, Mar 06 issue, created such a discussion at the 164th Association Executive Committee meeting...that I had to dig out further evidence to support the statement. In doing so, I won a \$98 bet!! If there's that much disbelief out there, then you need this info, too!

by David Steinert (http://home.att.net/~steinert/real_reason_for_the.htm)

Contrary to popular belief, the "notch" in the WWII dog tag was **not** designed so the dog tag could be placed in the teeth of a deceased soldier for identification.

The notch was designed so that the dog tag was held securely in the embossing machines. There were a few different embossing machines used during the war. The "Graphotype" hand-operated embossing machines were Army Stock N° 54-M-29055, -29055-50, -29065, and pistol-type... Model 70, Medical Dept Item #99387.

Sources: The Officer's Guide, 9th Ed., Jul 42; Army Regulation 600-35, Section VI, 31 Mar 44; AR 600-40, Sect III, 31 Mar 44; FM 10-63 Graves Registration, 15Jan45; TM 12-250 Administration, 10 Feb42



So WHO lost the bet with me? None other than Col (ret) Vern Fetch! I collected a very delicious Chinese dinner at my favorite restaurant with two of my favorite people (Vern & fiancé Margaret). Sec/Treas Ben wondered if "crow" was on Vern's menu ☺

And there's other nifty stuff your drill sergeant probably didn't tell you.....

What is the X on the sides of a Jerry can for?

Who was Kilroy, and why was he "here"?

Was it originally Duck Tape or Duct Tape?

The answers will be in future issues!

Anybody wanna bet?

New Member is author of "War in the Pacific"



Brigadier General Jerome T. Hagen was born 28 Jan 33 in Norma, ND. He attended Minot State College, graduated from Syracuse Univ, & earned a master's degree from the Univ of Michigan. Military education includes Amphibious Warfare School, Command & Staff College, and Air War College. Gen Hagen was Executive Officer of Marine Attack Squadron 214 in Chu Lai, Vietnam in 1965, and Commander of Hqs Squadron 2, Cherry Point. He returned to DaNang, Vietnam, in 1970 as Commanding Officer of Marine Attack Squadron 311. He

flew 483 combat missions in Vietnam. His personal decorations include: the Silver Star Medal; the Defense Superior Service Medal; Legion of Merit with Combat "V"; the Distinguished Flying Cross; Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V"; Air Medal with Numeral 32; and the Combat Action Ribbon. His father served in the Army prior to WWII and was stationed at Ft. Snelling, MN.

Mr. Rex Cook, a life member of your Assoc recently sent me a copy of the March 2006 *164th Infantry News*. I am most impressed with the newsletter, as I am with Rex Cook and your featured veteran, Woodrow Wilson Keeble.

Shortly before the 50th anniversary of the War in the Pacific (2 Sep 95), I approached the President of Hawaii Pacific University with a plan to develop and teach a history course titled, War in the Pacific. I was Dean of Academic Advising at the time.

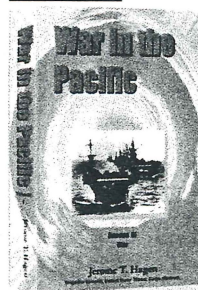
Initially the chapters were simply handouts or articles about the various events and personalities of the Pacific war. That all changed when *The Honolulu Advertiser* asked permission to carry a separate article every day leading up to the 50th anniversary. Besides being very complementary, many readers suggested I should put the articles in book form, so I added pictures, maps, and graphics to the chapters and Hawaii Pacific University published **Volume I**, which is a series of single chapters in chronological sequence that takes the reader through the entire war, from start to finish.

Once the book got out to the public, I began receiving mail asking why I did not have a chapter about more places and personalities. Thus, **Volume II** was born.

Vol II, pgs 158&160: "24 Oct 42...the [Japanese] attack group was killed by Lewis Puller's battalion and soldiers of the 164th Regiment who were fed into the lines beside the marines. Side by side, soldiers and marines threw back the Japanese attack"."Prior to the battle, marines customarily referred to members of the army as 'doggies' or 'dogfaces'. After the battle, marines respectfully addressed the army troops as 'soldiers'."

About three years ago I began focusing on those events that most Americans know little or nothing about. This effort resulted in **Volume III** which was published in November 2005. I'm still writing chapters, but have no plans for Volume IV at this time.

Volume I examines why Japan was in China in the 1930s



(the real start of WW II in the Pacific) and why they could not get out. Most Americans think that the surrender ceremony aboard USS Missouri was "the" ceremony. Actually, wherever there were Japanese military in the Pacific after the Tokyo Bay ceremony, a formal surrender ceremony was held. The chapter on the Death railway has been the subject of many letters of

thanks for "telling it like it is." No one can read about "Lord Blears," without having respect for his courage.

Volume II's chapter entitled "There's More than Snow on Nagano," will amaze most readers. The first chapter describing Japanese Prime Minister Tanaka and his reminder to the Emperor that, "It is Japan's divine right to rule the world," is new material. There are chapters on personalities as well as Leyte Gulf, Iwo Jima, Guadalcanal (five chapters), Truk, and Rabaul. Sad chapters are those about the comfort women, and the

meanest man in the war, Shiro Ishii.

Volume III is my favorite because most of the material is new to Americans. What a fine job the Merchant Marine did in WWII; yet, you read very little about it. And who knows about the internment of the Japanese-Canadians and the Aleuts in Alaska? How about the recovery of the seven battleships at Pearl Harbor? Six of the ships went on to see action in WW II. Do not miss the chapter on Masanobu Tsuji, a cruel and interesting, man.

Most Americans know little of the Burma campaign, even though it was the longest campaign of the war.

I guarantee the reader will find each volume interesting, informative, and fascinating. You can read them in any sequence. They are not redundant.

Semper Fidelis! Jerome T. Hagen, author

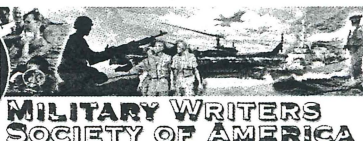
The books are available directly from the author, autographed and personalized per your instructions for \$24.50 ea, or \$71 per set of 3, postage paid.

Mail: J.T. Hagen, 47-446 Lulani St, Kaneohe, HI 96744

Email: Hagenj001@hawaii.rr.com, Fax: 808-239-1053

"[Volume II] is the best history book ever written on the war in the Pacific!"

It is a part of a must read book series.



Volume II flows with great energy and lots of excellent researched information, and data. The **MWSA** not only gives [these] books (Volume I & II) its **HIGHEST BOOK RATING – FIVE STARS** – but we also go on record as fully endorsing all of the books in the series. Reviewer: Bill McDonald – President of the MWSA
More at <http://www.militarywriters.com/reading.htm>



Greetings from your President!

Are you planning on attending the Reunion on 15-16-17 Sept 06 in Valley City? If you are, have you made Motel Reservations?

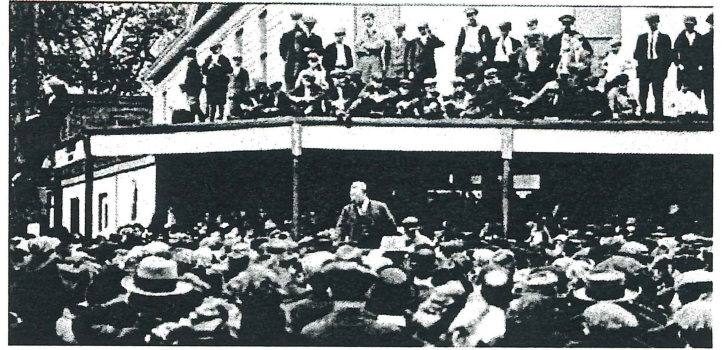
Your Executive Committee, Ben-Vern-Mac-Frank and our Editor Shirley, met on 1 June and finalized our Interpretive Signs for the 164th Memorial Highway.

Our Vice President, Ray, and his Co "G" Buddies are doing their part for the Reunion and my wife, Mary, has been addressing envelopes. Of course, our daughter, Pat, and her husband, Jim, are doing all of the Reunion administrative work.

We again are planning an enjoyable weekend with the formal dedication of the 164th Infantry Memorial Highway Project prior to our Band Concert in the Veterans Park.

Bernie
Bernie Wagner

Theodore Roosevelt on Immigrants and being an AMERICAN, 1919



"In the first place, we should insist that if the immigrant who comes here in good faith becomes an American and assimilates himself to us, he shall be treated on an exact equality with everyone else, for it is an outrage to discriminate against any such man because of creed, or birthplace, or origin. But this is predicated upon the man's becoming in very fact an American, and nothing but an American ... There can be no divided allegiance here. Any man who says he is an American, but something else also, isn't an American at all. We have room for but one flag, the American flag, and this excludes....any foreign flag of a nation to which we are hostile...We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language ... We have room for but one sole loyalty and that is a loyalty to the American people."

http://urbanlegends.about.com/library/bl_roosevelt_on_immigrants.htm



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