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The 164th INFANTRY News

Vol. 29 No. 2

1990 is our 44th ass'n yr

July 1990

164th Infantry Reunion —October 5-6-7, 1990

To members and friends of the 164th Infantry Association:

First of all, please be advised that we have made some changes since our last report to you. We will not have hors d'oeuvres on Friday evening. You will be on your own for your meal. For those of you who would like some fresh air and exercise there are many good eating places within walking distance of the Radisson Inn including: Hardee's, Burger King, Rax, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Howard's Sirloin, Jade Gardens, Ground Round, The Grinder, Sergio's Mexican Restaurant, Pizza Hut, Skippers and McDonalds and several at the Kirkwood Mall. The Radisson Inn also has an excellent restaurant.

The Continental breakfast, coffee and rolls, Saturday morning will be served free of charge by the Radisson Inn in appreciation of having the members of the 164th Infantry Association as their guests. The Association will pay for the orange juice.

We have changed the price of the raffle tickets. Instead of 3 tickets for \$5.00, the tickets will be \$5.00 for 1 ticket or 3 tickets for \$10.00. Return 1 ticket stub for \$5.00 or 3 ticket stubs for \$10.00. The prizes, 3 winners of \$164.00, will remain the same. If you are unable to attend our reunion we would appreciate your support by buying tickets. You do not have to be present to win. The raffle tickets, reunion registration forms and Radisson Inn room reservation cards will be mailed to you in July. Your

reservation for rooms must be made with the Inn. Please be advised that our May mailing was cancelled.

We have ordered 288 coffee mugs with the 164th Infantry and Americal Division Insignias and names of the islands the 164th Infantry saw action on during World War II. The cups will sell for \$5.00 each during our reunion.

Some of our members suggested we get caps with 164th Infantry Insignia and sell them during our reunion. We are able to get caps, blue and white, that will sell for \$5.00 per cap. If we get orders for 24 or more caps we will order them. You may order your cap by writing "cap" on your reunion registration form. Orders for caps must be received by Sept. 1st. Your cap will be saved for you to buy during the reunion.

We have a few books left of the "164th Infantry on Guadalcanal" by LTC Baglien. We would appreciate it if you want some books please let us know so we will know how many more to have printed and be available during the reunion at \$5.00 per book.

We have contacted the Ft. Abraham Lincoln Foundation in regard to a tour of Ft. Abraham Lincoln State Park, including the Custer House, to be held on Saturday, Oct. 6th from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. When we informed them that this tour is for members of the 164th Infantry Association during our reunion in Bismarck they said they would be glad to open up the park and go all out in arranging a special tour for us. Other points of interest of this tour are: block houses, Indian mounds, the trail the 7th Cavalry used when they left for the Little Big Horn battle in Montana, and also the Lewis & Clark Trail. There is more information elsewhere in this issue. The N.D. National Guard will furnish the transportation for the tour. There will be a fee of \$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per couple for this tour. This fee is set by our committee and will be donated to the Ft. Abraham Lincoln Foundation in appreciation of the services of the guides etc. provided by the Foundation. Don't forget your camera!

The Ladies Luncheon, Saturday noon, will be in the Courtyard instead of poolside.

We will have more information on our reunion in our July mailing.

Sincerely, Harold Krause, President Frank Weisgerber, Secretary



North Dakota National Guard embarks for Philippine Islands, 1898.

Notes From The Editor . . .

Reprinted from previous issues of the "News" is information of the planned trip to the Solomon Islands in 1991 or 1992. Anyone interested in this trip, please write to Brig. Gen. Fred Flo, 23722 Villana, Mission Viejo, CA 92692.

The trip to Louisiana scheduled for October 20-21 on the 50th Anniversary of activation of Guard units stationed in Louisiana camps is still planned for this year. Association members who experienced the hospitality of Camp Claiborne in 1941 are eligible. The North Dakota Adjutant General, Alexander McDonald, will provide military air transportation for limited number originating in Bismarck for this trip. More details will be printed in the next issue of the "News."

Work on the Veterans Memorial Cemetery near Old Fort Lincoln, south of Mandan is progressing. It is located on a scenic site with a gradual slope and a beautiful view of the Missouri River. All veterans and spouses will be eligible to be buried at this cemetery. More information will be presented at the annual meeting.

Please note in this issue of the "News" a reprint of a letter from the Veterans Administration which should end speculation of a special bonus for Veterans.

Additional company pictures taken at the last reunion are included in this issue. Again, no attempt has been made to arrange the names in order shown in the picture. Also, some members who signed the roster were too bashful to have their picture taken.

Minutes of the Executive Council Meeting 3 May 1990

The Council convened on 3 May 1990 at Bismarck, ND.

Members Present

Harold Krause

Ed Murphy

Bill Tillotson

Frank Weisgerber

Don Robinson

Members Absent Geo Christensen

The following pertinent Association subjects were presented and reviewed with conclusions as indicated:

Reunion Guest Invitations:

To the following people:

The Governor and Spouse

The Adj. Gen. and Spouse

All Congressmen

Mayor of the Reunion City

Executive Council Meetings:

The Council will meet annually prior to the reunion at a time and place directed by the President.

Association Memorial Logo Coffee Cups:

The Council approved the expenditure of this item which is imprinted with the Americal Division and 164th Regiment Crest Logos and the names of the SW Pacific Island campaigns in which the 164th saw action. Colors are blue and gold on a white cup. A total of 288 have been ordered and will sell for \$5.00 per cup at the 1990 Reunion.

Annual Membership Dues:

Due to the increased cost of publishing and mailing of the 164th News, the Council recommended that the annual membership dues be increased to \$8.00. This recommendation requires a change to the Association by-laws and must be approved by the Association members at the 1990 business meeting.

Editor and Secretary Treasurer Salaries:

Motion by Don Robinson to increase the salary of the Editor and Secretary Treasurer to \$500.00 per year effective 3 May 1990. Motion seconded by Ed Murphy and approved by the Council. Officers affected by this motion abstained from voting.

Frank Weisgerber Secretary/Treasurer

Last Roll Call

Huston Galyen, Fargo, ND	March 19, 1990
Frank Keller, St. Louis Park, MN	May 11, 1990
John McCall, St. Paul, MN	February 1990
Joe McLaughlin, Pennsauken, NJ	February 28, 1990
Joe Meduna, Dickinson, ND	November 29, 1988
Howard Nygard, Longmont, CO	March 14, 1990
Don Oullette, Dickinson, ND	July 1989
Bernard Pawelek, Dearborn Heights, MI	November 17, 1989
Joe Wadnizak, Fridley, MN	May 1, 1990
Donald Hanson, Sherwood, ND	February 1990
John McCall, St. Paul, MN	February 1990

The 164th Infantry News

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BILL TILLOTSON Editor

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to the 164th Inf. News, Box 1111, Bismarck, N.D. 58502.

Insurance Hoax Continues to Frustrate Veterans

A GI insurance dividend hoax that first appeared more than 25 years ago continues to plague veterans.

The Veterans Administration insurance center in Philadelphia reports it is receiving between 7,000 and 15,000 applications a week for a non-existent dividend.

For many years the principal victims of the rumor were World War II and Korean Conflict veterans, who were told that the VA was sending a check for hundreds of dollars — a so-called insurance dividend — to any veteran who requested. In recent years, however, bogus brochures also have been targeting veterans of the Vietnam war.

The phony applications claim dividends have been authorized by recent Congres-

sional legislation. In fact, there is no insurance dividend for veterans who do not keep their insurance in force and no dividend legislation has been proposed in Congress.

The hoax causes thousands of veterans and dependents wasted effort, and generates needless labor and mailing expense at the VA's 58 regional offices across the country.

The hoax applications usually are unwittingly printed in magazines, newspapers and newsletters, or distributed in handbills. When notified of the error, editors have been cooperative about publishing retractions. Attempts to trace the origin of hoax have been unsuccessful, but it is believed that its life has been perpetu-

ated by the innocent duplication of bogus information.

The VA's legitimate insurance dividends are paid annually to current policyholders. More than 3 million veterans share in an annual dividend distribution, but payments are automatic and no application is needed.

Veterans and dependents with questions about government life insurance policies can phone a VA insurance specialist toll-free from throughout the U.S. Insurance holders and beneficiaries can obtain immediate service on address or policy changes, dividend information and other actions by dialing 1-800-422-8079, from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST.



"G" Co. Don Robinson, Pete Grant, Ben Glatt, Lloyd Weilander, Sam Nitscke, Clayton Kingston, Neil Tangen, Ken mcDonough, Bernie Wagner, Joe Tix, Ed Puhr, Tony Griffin, Ham Kjelland, Milt Kane, Dick Stowell.

"H" Co. Lenard Farr, Lloyd Weber, Dick Hoffman, Bob Todd, Bill Friedewald, Jack Hinton, Henry Carmin, Al Wiest, Ruddy Bellinger, Clayton Kingston, Carl Johnson, James Johnson, Don Hoffman, Chuck Walker, Richard Stout, Herb Meidinger, Roy Olson, Nick Cascio, Jim Aipperspach, M. Walsh, Charles Borgia, Harold Collins, Leonard Clemens, Jack Howe, Howard Johnson, George Hopkins, Howard Lauter.



Letters . . .

Sept. 2, 1989

Dear Ray:

Here it is almost time for our Reunion again, and I find that my wife and I will be away during that time. We have six weeks in Cancun, Mexico and seem always to go each year when the reunion comes around. I am enclosing my check for \$10.00 for the raffle and next year's dues and am really sorry that I won't be able to renew old acquaintances with a lot of people I knew so well so long ago.

I had the sad experience of attending Colonel Sam Baglien's funeral a few weeks ago and thought then that I should make a lot more effort in coming to the reunion. but not this year, unfortunately. I have attended one Band Reunion out here in Huntington Beach and have talked to Jim Parmeter about a plan that I have in mind for a return to the South Pacific in 1992. The idea I have is to escort those members of the 164th who are still with us and who are interested in returning and have our Reunion on Guadalcanal. My intention is to fly to Sydney, spend two or three days there, then cruise to the Great Barrier Reef, Port Moresby, Bougainville, Guadalcanal, Fiji, New Caledonia and back to Sydney. Then fly home with a possible stop in Honolulu.

This is all in the thinking stage, but I would hope to obtain some interest on the parts of Senators from North Dakota and California, the State Department and the President, since this would be the fiftieth anniversary of the Battle for Guadalcanal which, as we all know, was the turning point in the War in the South Pacific and we were the first Army troops involved in offensive combat in WWII.

My very best regards to you, Ray, keep up the good work.

Fred Flo BGen, Retired (714) 830-8110

4-1-90

Dear Bill -

I received word that a Co. B man has died in St. Paul, Minn., in Feb. 1990. His name is John E. McCall. He joined us in Ft. Ord.

I hope this note finds you and your wife well. Janet and I are doing pretty good.

Give my regards to anyone in Bismarck that I know.

Sincerely, Bob Carr 5756 Florence Ter Oakland, CA 94611



John Van Eendenburg, Al Wiest, John Tuff, Max Straka, LeRoy Hamre, James Hoop.

May 11, 1990

Dear Bill:

I'm sure glad you contacted me last year about the existence of the 164th Infantry Association. My wife and I both enjoyed the reunion and I was able to meet a few old buddies that I never thought I'd see again. I'm sure you remember Joe McLaughlin. He was in the same squad with McGinnis and me. He passed away about two months ago. George may have written to you about him. Hope all is well with you, take care. I am looking forward to this year's reunion

Sincerely Joe Motil 20276 Washtenaw Ave. Harper Woods, MI 48225

Dear Bill:

Once again, no newsletter since Dec. 89 when renewal and change of address was sent to you in Dec. 89.

Could you please check and let me know why.

Suppose you have been notified of Huston (Hoot) Galyen passing away on 3-19-90. Funeral was on 3-23-90. If you need more information contact Walter Byers of Fargo or myself at this address.

Thank you, Gene W. Olson 303 Washington Ave. Apt. 102 Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 30 April 90

Dear Bill:

Will you please list the name of Howard E. Nygard who passed away March 14, 1990 at Longmont, Colorado.

Howard was a member of the 164th Inf. Band from Claiborne, New Caledonia, The "Canal" and Fiji Islands. He will be missed by his buddies and friends.

Sincerely, Art Nix Band 1012 6th Ave. S. Moorhead, MN 56560

April 16, 1990

Well, I didn't make the front page, but I made page 6 of the 164 News (April). I'm in the middle playing the trombone. The guy playing the bass horn to my left is Elmer Swanson, hometown of Milnor, N.D., the French horn man is Charles T. Bell, hometown of Enderlin, and the drum major could have been anyone that didn't have a beer can in either hand at the time.

I was told that at one time, we were about to be shot down by the OD or someone in command for the day, when Col. Sarles showed up and decided that a little horse play was OK for the moral.

That was Genuine World War underwear.

Here is my check, run me through for another year...

Thanks, LeRoy Busching 1412 N. 7th St. Wahpeton, ND



James Rains, Ernest Rodgers, James Phillips, Ralph Parport, Donald Eichelberger, Malcolm Anderson, Gordon St. Claire, Don Van Slyke, Ken McLaughlin, James Romig, Max Straka, Arvid Thompson, Ardell Ingebretson, Orval Volden, Wally Starkenberg, Eli Dobervich, Connie Anderson, John Korsmo, Doug Burtell, Elmer Montgomery.

April 27, 1990

A belated "well done" to the 1989 Reunion Committee. Bismarck is indeed a great convention center. The work and effort by all concerned was evident in the organization of all factors of the reunion. I do feel that an effort should have been made to provide transportation to various churches for those who wished to attend. A special "thanks" to those who forgot to invite our political leaders, how nice to not have to listen to all the hot air usually expelled by those people.

I am still trying to locate members of the 164th who served both in the Pacific and European Theaters of Operations. Earl Lipke - L, 164th is my latest find. Are there any more??

Awesome tasks will face the officers and reunion committees for the years 1991 and 1992. Two 50th Anniversaries—mobilization in 1991, overseas and combat in 1992. I do hope that our "King Making" committees take this into consideration. While it does a great job, the 164th News reaches a limited number of members. The Legion, VFW, and DAV magazines are an excellent method of notification, but I would suggest even wider coverage. Army Times, Army Echos, ROA, and NCOA, would reach some former members as would state and department publications of the Legion and VFW.

In my travels throughout the United States, I often notice Interstate, Federal and State Highways designated as 37th, 32th, 33th Divisions highways, or as Wis-

consin Veterans Memorial Highways. Why can't there be a 164th Infantry Highway in North Dakota? Surely, this would be a most fitting memorial to our Regiment.

At the 1989 convention, I overheard discussions pertaining to the fate of our "sister regiments." The 132nd Inf. is still active as a member of the Illinois National Guard. The 182nd Infantry is an active RCT of the Massachusetts National Guard. The Americal Division is "inactive" at the present time, but has been activated twice since WWII, the last time as an Infantry Division in Vietnam.

I feel that it would be most appropriate that a band be asked to participate in the 1991 and 1992 reunions. That this band be able to play the songs that greeted us many mornings for "reveille," for "work call" or greeted us coming home from a 20 mile hike. Maybe we would enjoy some of the other martial numbers that our band so ably offered from time to time. Many times I have asked that the official "Infantry Song" (Roger Young) be presented at one of our reunions, as yet there have been no results.

Present plans are for my wife and myself to tour Western and parts of Eastern Europe this summer. God willing, I definitely will attend the 1990 Reunion. I hope to meet many old comrades at this time.

> Sincerely, Edward R. Puhr 1503 Grant Danville, IL 61832

Dear Bill,

It is with sadness that my husband Bernard Pawelek died on Nov. 17, 1989 of a massive heart attack. He was out hunting and that's when he got it.

Ben and I attended several reunions, which will be remembered forever. I know Ben had a lot of friends in the 164th Inf. He talked about them all the time. I know his friends will remember him.

Sincerely, Marie Pawelek 6101 Highland St. N. Dearborn Heights, MI 48129

May 19, 1990

Dear Bill:

I remain appreciative of the time which you gave so that I might see the Shodi-Yokami Samurai Statue. As I told you, I had often wondered what that cold November evening in Japan had actually accomplished when several of us decided to box the fellow and send him on his way to North Dakota. Frankly, I really never expected it to arrive in Bismarck—especially so as a goodly number of my own service related items never made it beyond the barracks at Fort Lawton, WA.

You and I talked about the present state of the statue and I have often thought about it since leaving North Dakota. At the present time, the article is not only poorly displayed but is also in a place where the greatest damages can occur from the exterior elements. It needs to be cleaned by museum restoration experts (not by amateurs from the Guard's headquarters) and it needs some repairs to chipped parts. Having had some restorations done to some very old Chinese art, I want to make a very specific appeal for real professionals to do the job.

We also talked about alternative housing for the statue. After I last saw you, the council members traveled up to Camp Grafton. I wonder if this would be an appropriate place? I think that locating it with a museum would be a doubtful thing to do as those institutions will require that the Association give up all title to the article and agree to let them sell it (or give it away). If the Association wishes to give it back to Japan, I would suggest that the Japanese National Defense College, Tokyo (I have the address somewhere) would be the body to contact.

Again, I thank you for solving the mystery of "The Missing Samurai."

Sincerely, W. Mark Durley Jr. Ex-"L" Company, 3rd Bn Hq Regt. HQ, Americal HQ and Eighth Army Hq. 1485 North Blosser Rd. Santa Maria, CA 93454 Dear Sirs,

I am enclosing a check for \$5.00, which I hope will cover the subscription dues, for a year for the 164th Infantry News. If not let me know and I will send more to cover the cost.

Sincerely, Mrs. John J. Schuld P.O. Box 148 Dickinson, ND 58601

April 27, 1990

Dear Frank:

Good to talk with you this morning. Here's my check for \$5.00 to cover dues. Please use my home address:

A. H. Te Paske 400 4th Ave. NE Sioux Center, Iowa 51250

I was one of the "instant officers" created on New Caledonia in August of 1942 and served with the 164th all the way through to Japan. My longest duty was as C.O. of Co. B.

Cordially yours, A. H. Te Paske

Dec. 30, 1989

Dear Sir

I enjoy the News very much. Having attended the last three reunions I would like a copy of the booklet of the 164th Inf. on Guadalcanal as I didn't get a copy at reunion. Enclosed is check for \$6.00.

Buriel F. Watkins 38 W. St. Louis St. Auora, Mo 65605 P.S. I was in Co. A.

Dear Frank

Enclosed, find application for membership and dues. As noted on the application I'm not sure of the dates. I joined "A" Co. 164th on Cebu before departing for Negros and transferred out in Japan as I didn't have enough points to return with the regiment.

Thanks for the copy of the "News." I think I recognized some of the "A" Co. members' names. I do remember Gene Brinkman as we were in the same platoon — maybe the same squad. It's been a lot of years.

I stayed in the Army after the war ended. First in the Amphibs and later in the Marine Field of the Transportation Corps until I completed 23 years of service and never during all those years met a former member of the 164th. I did run into a few who had served in the Americal in WW II.

Sincerely, Arthur W. Hanley 1747 Hickox Rd. Mount Vernon, WA 98273



C. J. "Jim" Livinggood, Joel Fedje, Clayton Kingston, Ray Stellon, Les Kerbaugh, Ben Osborne, Wes Rockne, Paul Clemens, Delmar Brokaw, Byron Flexhaug, Owen Heller, Bob Gehrman, Fran Sommers, Paul Holgerson, Louis Hanson, Gail Landes, Vern Tittsworth, George Christianson, Jim Cecil.

April 11, 1990

Dear Editor,

Last week I have a very pleasant surprise. Robert Boyd, a member of our old Anti-tank Co., was stopping over night in Harvey on his way back to Washington from Minn.

He called Fred Bienek and myself from the Vets Club and we had a real nice visit, talking over old times. This was a special treat for me because tho he said he had stopped in Harvey before this was the first time I had seen him since the Army days.

This was also good to get his current mailing address because we are soon going to send out our first mailing for our reunion which will be held in July of 1991.

Bob also asked me to send in money for his 1990 dues for the 164 Inf. Assn. so I am enclosing a check for his dues. Please send his card to:

Robert Boyd 25011-32nd Ave Spanaway, WA 98357

Greetings and a fine Easter wish to all my old comrades. Good luck and good health to you all.

John L. Strauss 505 E. Brewster St. Harvey, N.D. 58341 Dear Bill.

Enclosed find an obituary for "Smoky" Joe Wadnizak, formerly of "Co. K" Dickinson. Also enclosed is one I received from his wife Ione. Tim Sullivan told me someone from Minneapolis was going to send one too. I hope you will have room in the News for one of them.

Thanks, Ray Summers

Joe Wadnizak

"Smoky" Joe Wadnizak, 73, of Fridley, Minn., died May 1, 1990.

The funeral was held May 4 at Miller Funeral Home Columbia Heights Chapel with interment in Fort Snelling Cemetery.

Joseph B. Wadnizak was born at Lehigh, N.D., to John and Mary Wadnizak. He worked 32 years for the Northern Pacific and Burlington Northern Railroad. He was a member of Co. K 164th Infantry and a Guadalcanal veteran. He received the Bronze Star.

He is survived by his wife, Ione; sons, Bruce, Dennis and Kenneth of Fridley, Minn.; daughters, Julie of Fridley and Gayla of Minneapolis; a brother, Harry of Fargo and sisters, Ann Dockter of West Fargo, Frances Reyder, Lillian and Mary Wadnizak of Fargo.



"F" Co. Lyndin McCreary, George Laughlin, Arvid Thompson, Bernie Wagner.

December 24, 1989

Dear Bill:

I am writing to you today since I don't know who the new Association President is yet, but this is in follow-up to my letter of September 2nd which was published in the September News and is about my thoughts on a return to the South Pacific in 1992.

Planning is progressing, I have written to Gen. Macdonald, my Senator, my Congressman, the Secretary of State and the President regarding my thoughts on some official status for the planned visits and the Tour Company that I am working with has some good ideas in mind, but as yet no costs for the complete tour. I also have in mind a distinctive Cap and Emblem for a mens' blazer, for which I hope to be able to send information and pictures back to the Board for their interest and approval for regular use as well as for the trip being planned for 1992.

Now, what we need to do is to generate some interest on the part of our members in order to get an idea of what the costs may finally amount to. Incidentally, I would appreciate your thoughts about the trip as well as some from any of the members in Bismarck and the surrounding area that you may see from time to time. I sincerely hope that many members and wives will be interested as the time we were there was a very important time for us and certainly for our country.

A belated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

> Best regards, Fred Flo BGen, Retired

6-18-90

Dear Bill & Reunion Comm.

Enclosed are 2 checks. One for registration for the 164th Reunion on Oct. 5-6-7. We plan to come down Sat. a.m. Have made our room reservations earlier today. The second check is for 164th News for 91. We did not receive the letter in May regarding registration as your April paper stated so please give this to the committee in charge of the reunion.

Leslie A. Balerud Lois H. Balerud 1811 6th St. S.E. Apt. 3 Minot, N.D. 58701

See you in Oct.

Mr. Bill Tillotson:

How the heck are you, and your wife. Good health, I hope.

The last time I saw you in Bismarck you were still scarfing it up at breakfast, as usual at mess call.

Bill, I just received some bad news from Joe Motil about Joe McLaughlin passing away. Joe and I were under your command in Co. K. Joe was a true great buddy in those tough years.

I am enclosing his death notice and hope you will put it in the Last Roll Call.

He was not a member of the association, but did receive the Purple Heart on Hill #7 in the Philippines.

Enclosed please find a little token in memory of Joe in Co. K.

Sincerely George McGuinness 164 Maitland Ave. Patersno, NJ 07502

P.S. Hope to see you at breakfast in Bismarck 1990. Joe died Feb. 28, 1990. Co. K., Camden, NJ.

Feb. 16, 1990

Bill -

I'm still trying to find a copy of the book "Under The Southern Cross" about the 164th on the "Canal."

If you know of someone that has an extra copy or one they don't want, I'd appreciate getting this address. Am willing to pay for the book.

Thanks, Dryan Baldwin PO Box 1623 Grand Forks, ND 58206

APPLICATION FOR	MEMBERSHIP	and/or ANNUA	AL RENEWAL
164th INFANTR	Y ASSOCIATION	of the UNITE	D STATES

Name					
Unit Served With and Dates					
Mailing Address					
City	State	Zip Code No.			

DUES FOR 1990 — \$5.00 which includes \$4.00 subscription to 164th News. Send to Secretary 164th Infantry, Box 1111, Bismarck, North Dakota 58502

The 164th Infantry News

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