



11-1993

164th Infantry News: November 1993

164th Infantry Association

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The 164th INFANTRY News

Vol. 32 No. 3

1993 is our 47th ass'n yr

November 1993

A New Boss is appointed for The North Dakota National Guard

Adjutant General Alexander Macdonald has retired after a very successful tenure. The North Dakota National Guard is larger and more professional because of his effort and ability. General Macdonald has been and is a good friend of our Association. The General will retire to a new home in Fargo, North Dakota. We wish him and

Mrs. Macdonald a well deserved happy retirement life.

The new Adjutant General is Brigadier General Keith Bjerke who brings to the position much experience on a national and state level. We are confident that he will provide excellent leadership.

Notes From The Editor

We had a good if expensive reunion in Bismarck. About 350 members and wives attended. A good time was enjoyed by all. As you know, the 1994 reunion will also be held in Bismarck. Start making plans to attend. The 1995 reunion will be held in Fargo, ND. The 1994 and 1995 dates will be announced later.

Secretary Treasurer Frank Wiesgerber asks every one to send in their 1994 dues as soon as possible. This will help to keep the organization financially sound and lessen the efforts of our hard working Secretary-Treasurer.

The Americal Division Veterans Association is offering a one year membership in the association for \$5.00. Anyone interested in joining this association and is a past member of the Americal Division can get the application blank from Past Na-

tional Commander ADVA, Roland T. Castronova, 252 Newbury St. Lot 118, Peabody, MA 01960.



General "Mac" greets young friend, Island of Guadalcanal, Solomon Island.

Letters . . .

August 28, 1993

Dear Bill:

It's always the work of the few that makes a group, our association, noteworthy. 164th Infantry Association effectively meets the standards that men and women that know of war hope for. It may be the work of a few but it is the support of all that share this uncommon bond. All the members of the 164th Infantry Association that contribute time, money and share in their remembrances of days gone help keep this association a continuing source of information.

I, for one, seek a quiet place to read the 164th Infantry News. The many interesting published letters bring back to me the signifi-

cance of incomprehensible, bewildering, inapprehensible moments in our lives that we shared in making history so long ago.

Let's hope there will always be such men and women that make up the 164th Infantry Association. Without them our flag will continue to wave proudly in silence. That would certainly not be acceptable to those made silent by combat, ill health or the elderly that make up the final muster.

Keep up the good work and thanks for all your efforts.

Sincerely,
Don E. Hoppe
6139 Melita Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95409-5726
(707) 538-2092

New Members

John W. Gregory, St. Louis, MO
Frank D. Maria, Elyria, OH
Joe E. M. Cuellar, Corrales, NM
Henry S. Rose, Jr., San Angelo, TX
Elroy Greul, Fargo, ND

164th Memorial Fund Contributions as of 30 Sep 1993

Anton Hanel	\$25.00
Ted Blahnik	\$10.00
H.D. Wildermuth	\$25.00
Lloyd Weber	\$10.00
Mitch Pillarick	\$25.00
Frank Eide, Sr.	\$25.00
Joe Otmar	\$25.00
Theo Conrath	\$25.00
LaVerne Greenacre	\$15.00
John Livingstone	\$10.00
John W. O'Brien	\$10.00
Eric Engbrecht	\$25.00
Gordon Evanson	\$10.00
Henry Rose Jr.	\$50.00
Vic Athias	\$25.00
Adrian Holten	\$10.00
V.R. Powers	\$10.00
Steve Chemistruck	\$25.00
Franklin Schoeffler	\$25.00
Jim Fenelon	\$100.00
Tony Beer	\$50.00
Paul Dowhaniuk	\$25.00
Elmo Olson	\$50.00
Don Robinson	\$50.00
Mel Bork	\$50.00
Red Cherrey	\$100.00
Pete Grant	\$100.00
Horace Nearhood	\$10.00
Richard Cohen	\$20.00
Bette Nerpel	\$75.00

Frank says the slogan for today is:

Make Good News Send Dues

The Great Bougainville Artillery Battle (Second Installment)

The last issue of the "News" left the members of K Company ducking their heads as Artillery rounds coming and going passed over their heads. Soon a prime mover came lumbering up the road behind the front line towing a 90 mm Anti-aircraft gun. Soon the weapon was in position on the front line and ready to fire. Looking through the high power scope, the gun commander was able to see the individual Japanese gun positions.

With its flat trajectory and high velocity, the anti-aircraft gun was able to place most of its rounds into the openings of the bunkers with unerring accuracy. The sound of the gun firing preceded the sound of the round exploding by only a brief second or two. Soon all of the Japanese guns were silenced. The gun crew soon prepared the weapon for travel and left the area. Fortunately the Japanese Artillery were not able to shift their fire and silence the anti-aircraft gun. Their mission accomplished, the weapon and crew could leave without receiving any counter-battery fire. Needless to mention, the members of the company were glad to see the weapon leave

before the front line became a prime target.

The next day K Company was informed that their next mission as part of a Regimental offensive was to occupy the positions held by the Japanese artillery. The Company left the perimeter area on the left flank of the Regimental sector and after traveling by foot for several hours on jungle trails were able to locate and occupy the area lately occupied by a large number of Japanese.

The Japanese were well dug in on both the forward and reverse slope of the ridge. The artillery pieces were in the emplacements on the forward slopes with dugouts on the reverse slope used for personnel protection and ammunition supply. Most of the artillery was still in position. About thirty weapons were counted with a unknown number buried or removed from the area. A considerable amount of unfired ammunition had been left behind by the fleeing Japs. The area showed signs of very recent occupation. How they were able to site in the guns and adjust fire is a mystery as the narrow opening in the emplacements left very little space to adjust fire.

Members of the Company gathered souvenirs, brass shell casings, small silk powder bags and parts of the weapon. The guns were 77MM short barrel, mountain type, very much like the 75MM American Mountain Artillery.

A broad path had been developed on the reverse slope for bringing the guns and for ammunition and other supplies.

A large spring nearby furnished plenty of water. Hundreds of fish-head cans near the spring indicated that meals had been eaten here and that the consumers had hastily departed. The Japanese artillerymen had taken great care to cut fields of fire and logs for emplacements without revealing their presence. Perhaps our intelligence sections had not been alert.

The Regiment successfully cleared the series of ridges from the Torakina River to the perimeter. Thus ended the great Bougainville Artillery battle with a great effort and unknown number of casualties for the Japanese and little effect on the defenders of the Perimeter.

Letters . . .

20 Aug. 1993

Howdy,

We returned home last Monday ... 16 Aug. after 4 weeks on the road. As you promised, you sent me copies of the 164th Infantry News and I just finished reading them and have sent 30 bucks to the Sec. Treas. with application for membership. The 30 bucks was for the 1992 issues you sent of the News, 1993 membership and 1994 membership.

You were out a few bucks on postage and handling charges too so here is an Abraham Lincoln to help cover the costs and effort.

I really meant to look you up when we were through ND ... my first time to set foot in ND but my mate and I were both getting a bit pooped and not very good company so settled for a phone call.

My mother was born in Dakota Territory in 1886. I had been through Sully Co., SD in Feb. 1965 but had never been in ND. I know there is a lot of history in ND that I would like to explore but doubt that will happen as my long driving trips in an auto are about over.

Thanks for the info you sent and will look forward to receiving other quarterly news you are putting out.

Sincerely,
Zane E. Jacobs
2075 Mariposa St.
Seaside CA 93955

29 Aug. 1993

Howdy,

This is Application for Membership to the

164th Infantry Association.

I served with Easy Company, 2nd Battalion, 164th Infantry from late April 1945 till late Oct. 1945 or perhaps early Nov.

I joined the unit from a Reppo Depo on Leyte. My 19th birthday was the day FDR died (12 Apr. 1945) and it was shortly after that we loaded aboard LCI's and journeyed to Cebu where I joined the Platoon under a SSgt named Jack Kachell. He was from Arizona if I recall correctly. Have often wondered whatever became of him.

I am not from ND but by the time the Division landed in the Philippines a lot of replacements had already joined the 164th from various states.

Last Apr. or May while talking on "Prodigy" with members of the Americal Division, Jay Roth sent me address of William W. Tillotson. We stopped in Bismarck overnight 6/7 Aug. and I called Mr. Tillotson morning of the 7th before shoving off for Ellendale, ND to visit a cousin I had never met.

As promised, Mr. Tillotson send me some back issues of "The 164th Infantry News." Believe he sent ALL of 1992 and April 1993. So I am sending you ten bucks for 1992, ten for 1993 and ten for 1994 for a total of 30 bucks.

In reading the News, I see a couple of names I recognize. One is a Captain Walker. It seems to me he was promoted to Major shortly after we arrived in Japan 8 Sep. 1945 and was bumped on points because of the advancement to Major and had to stay longer, like us newcomers. I know for sure he was an outstanding field officer that knew how to

talk on field comm to get artillery support in a hurry.

Sincerely,
Zane E. Jacobs
2075 Mariposa St.
Seaside CA 93955

P.S. I was advanced to PFC. AUS 38572198 but busted back to PVT before leaving the Army in Mar. 1947. Joined the USN 2 years exactly after Army Discharge & retired from USN as AGC USN in Sep. 1969. with 23 years total service time. Worked for the Navy as Civil Service (Meteorological Technician) from May 1972 to end of June 1991 and now fully retired. Born 12 April 1926 Oklahoma.

The 164th Infantry News, USPS 699-800 is published quarterly by The 164th Infantry Association. Office address and location, Bill Tillotson, Editor, 618 West Thayer, Bismarck, ND 58501.

Subscription price of \$6.00 per year is included in the membership fee. Second class postage is paid at Bismarck, ND post office zip code 58501-9996.

1993-94 Association Officers are:

President . Don Robinson, Bismarck, ND

Vice President..... Milt Kane,
Bismarck, ND

Sec./Treas. Frank Weisgerber,
Bismarck, ND

Editor Bill Tillotson
164th Infantry News Bismarck, ND

POSTMASTER: Address changes should be sent to 164th Infantry Association, PO Box 1111, Bismarck, ND 58502.

The Last Roll Call

Kenneth Lundberg, San Antonio, TX May 30, 1993
 Neil Higbee, Sedro-Woolley, WA Aug. 28, 1993
 Carles Norton, Grand Forks, ND Oct. 12, 1993

Dear Ben,

I promised I would let you and everybody know that Bud is doing great.

Thank God for 911 and the fast work at the hospital giving him intravenous feeding. Bud had a mild stroke, he was partially paralyzed on his left side. He couldn't stand on his own.

Bud is home, he is making many trips to the doctor's office and is doing real good. We walk about 3 miles a day. On Sept. 9 he hooked up his trailer to get a load of wood. We always work together. He pulled the trailer by himself and hooked it up. The doctor said that he doesn't realize he is an old man or getting older. His heart and arteries are that old. Age creeps up on guy.

Bud and I wish that everybody have a good time and a safe trip home. Hope to see everybody next year.

Love and God Bless,
 Bud & Lonaine Thone
 2552 Beacon St. N
 Roseville, MN 55113

20 September 1993

Gentlemen of the 164th Infantry

Enclosed are my raffle tickets with remittance in the amount of \$10.00. Being a LIFE MEMBER no dues.

Please greet any "M" Co. members attending including any personnel section.

Twin City Chapter 164th Inf. Assn. had our "pot luck" at Don & Alice Van Slyke's last Saturday the 18th of September 1993. Thirty-one of the 164 alumni and spouse/widow attended. Included were five from the personnel section, Don Van Slyke, Willis Sewall, Thorvald Lillevik (fr Duluth), Urho Tuomikoski (fr Ely) and John Fischbach. Can you identify from the pers sect page 1 of the 164 News. Urho Tuomikoski had not joined the section as yet, but the other four are included — remember, that's fifty years ago. FENELON was there this time.

Good Luck and a HUGE SUCCESS for the reunion.

Sincerely,
 John A. Fischbach
 785 Armstrong Ave.
 St. Paul, MN 55102-3813

Sept. 17, 1993

Dear Bill;

I had plans on being at the reunion but last week I got a call from Carrington, ND, that my only living aunt had passed away on Sept. 8th so I went to the funeral, and just got back from N.D. and will not be able to be with all

of you as I had planned. Sorry.

I wish that all of you have one of the best reunions ever. Will miss not being able to see a lot of you. I sure enjoy reading the 164th News all the time and the pictures that the guys send in.

My only regret is that I will not be with all of you to enjoy the reunion. And I wish that you all have a wonderful time and enjoy the reunion.

Enclosed is a check for \$20.00, \$10.00 for my 3 tickets and \$10.00 for my dues. Thank you

Yours in comradeship,
 Albert L. Rode
 7151 York Ave.
 Edina, MN 55435

September 28, 1993

Dear Mr. Tillotson,

It is with deep gratitude that I write this letter on behalf of the Strolling Strings to thank you for the very warm reception that was offered to our group at the banquet last Saturday. The students and I were overwhelmed with the response to our "show" and also very appreciative of the monetary support you so graciously gave us. It is groups such as yours that become the yearly highlights of our busy performing schedule. The very generous donations will be set aside for the students benefit as we prepare for our California tour. Thank you for inviting us to be a part of your reunion and we shall look forward, with pleasure, to performing for you again next year.

Again our thanks for a wonderful evening.

Most sincerely,
 Rosemary Person, director

September 30, 1993

Dear Sir:

We received this letter from Robert G. Huffstutler who is trying to find some information on his brother who was killed on Guadalcanal while serving in Company E 164th Infantry.

I answered his letter as best I could but due to the fact that there are not many members from the 164th who live in this section of the country my answers were limited.

I am sending the letter to you in the hopes that you may find someone who served in Company E and knew Leslie C. Huffstutler and would contact his brother and give him the information that he seeks.

Yours in comradeship,
 Bernie Chase
 National Adjutant
 American Division Veterans
 Association
 PO Box 1381
 Boston, MA 02104

September 21, 1993

I do not know if I am contacting the right people or not but hope I am.

My brother, Leslie C. Huffstutler 37027719, was killed on Guadalcanal on November 25, 1942. Officially he was assigned to Company "E," 164th Infantry, still considered a part of the company the Lt. wrote. But some way or another he was with the Marines on Guadalcanal.

From your organization WERE THERE ANY MEN THAT MAY HAVE BEEN THERE WITH HIM? He is buried in the National Cemetery on the island Honolulu. His headstone reads PFC 164 Inf. American Division World War II.

If anyone can give me any information on the battle of Guadalcanal, I would appreciate hearing from them. As always I have unanswered questions for I never received even his dogtags. Was everything completely destroyed over there?

Sincerely,
 Robert G. Huffstutler
 13714 NE 72nd Ave.
 Vancouver, WA 98686

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP and/or ANNUAL RENEWAL 164TH INFANTRY ASSOCIATION of the UNITED STATES

Name _____

Unit Served With and Dates _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code No. _____

**DUES FOR 1994 — \$10.00 which includes \$6.00 subscription to 164th News.
 Send to Secretary 164th Infantry, Box 1111, Bismarck, North Dakota 58502.**

Annual Business Meeting Minutes

The annual business meeting of the 164th Inf. Assoc. of the United States was called to order by President Glatt at 10:00 AM 25 Sep 93 at the Radisson Inn, Bismarck, ND.

Officers Present: Ben Glatt, President; Don Robinson, Vice President; Bill Tillotson, Editor; Frank Weisgerber, Sect/Treas

The colors were posted by the North Dakota Army National Guard and the pledge of allegiance was lead by President Glatt.

The minutes of the 1992 business meeting were published in the Dec 92 issue of the 164th News and were approved by voice vote. The financial report was presented by the Sect/Treas. Motion by Don Eichelberger to accept the report as true and correct. Seconded by Elmo Olson.

The following committees were appointed by the President with the Chairman submitting recommendations as follows:

Time & Place: Bernie Wagner, Chairman; Ken Keyes, George Hopkins, Bob Well. The committee recommended that Fargo host the 1995 Reunion as Bismarck was previously selected for the 1994 Reunion. Motion was made to accept and passed by voice vote. 1995 reunion to be in Sept. 95.

Nominations: Gil Shirley, Chairman; Walt Johnsen, Tony Griffin, Ray Sawyer, Jim Hoop. The committee nominated the following people as officers for the year 94: President - Don Robinson; Vice Pres - Milt Kane; Editor - Bill Tillotson; Sect/Treas - Frank Weisgerber.

Nominations were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Auditing: Wally Johnson, Chairman; Pete Grant. After a review of the financial records, the committee found them to be in proper order and recommended they be accepted. Passed by voice vote.

Resolutions: George Christianson. To commend the Reunion committee and the City of Bismarck for a splendid job in making the 1993 a successful Reunion.

The President called for any other old business, there being none, he called for new business.

Jim Fenelon, Chairman of the Memorial committee gave a report on the work done to date, as to research of 164th veterans name, letters to Congressmen, Sect Aspin and General Powell. He also presented his plan or ideas for raising funds for the Memorial cost. More to follow by Jim.

Walt Johnsen gave a report on the design of the Memorial with Doug Burtell giving a report on the drawings or inscriptions on the Memorial.

At the conclusion of this Committee's report, Ray Conlon made a motion that the Association contribute \$25,000 to the Memorial fund. Seconded by John Landowski. Motion passed by voice vote.

Motion by Bill Tillotson that any surplus funds to the Memorial, above the cost of the Memorial, go to the Association Treasury. Motion passed by voice vote.

Motion by Max Straka and seconded by Charles Schlieve that certificate of appreciation be sent to the contributors for the Memorial fund. Motion passed by voice vote.

There being no further business, the President called for adjournment, motion by Bernie Wagner, seconded by Tony Beer. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM 25 Sep 1993.

FINANCIAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 1993

INCOME:

End of FY 1992 balance		\$ 6520.00
Dues, misc. donations	\$ 6051.00	
Interest on CDs	997.21	
Interest on Ck Acct	110.97	
Total	7159.28	7159.00
		<u>\$13679.00</u>

EXPENDITURES:

Printing	\$ 2412.49	
Postage	1064.01	
Administration	1174.26	
92 Reunion subsidy	847.00	
Miscellaneous	420.52	
93 Reunion support	873.45	
Total	6791.73	6791.00
Total unobligated funds		\$ 6888.00
CDs on Deposit		<u>\$36084.00</u>
Total Net Worth		\$42972.00

I certify that the above financial report for the 164th Infantry Association of the United States is true and correct for the Fiscal Year ending 30 Sep 93 (cut off date 15 Sep 93 due to Sep date of Reunion)

/s/ FRANK WEISGERBER
Sect/Treas



Past President Ben Glatt hands over the Gavel to the new President, Don Robinson.

The 164th Infantry News

Box 1111
BISMARCK, N.D. 58502

UPS - 699 - 800
2ND CLASS BISMARCK, ND 58502

ALVIN TOLLEFSRUD
PO BOX 256
MAYVILLE, ND 58257