



4-2000

164th Infantry News: April 2000

164th Infantry Association

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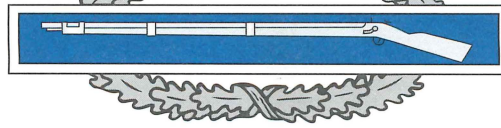
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The Ultimate Weapon the Combat Infantryman



THE 164TH INFANTRY NEWS

Vol. 40 • No.1

April, 2000

Presentation of Honorary Membership

(Left to Right): Russel Opat (Service Co.); Mrs. Yasuo Obi; Donna Opat, Yasuo Obi, Captain, Japanese 124th Infantry, Sendai Division. Captain Obi engaged in battle against the 164th Infantry on Guadalcanal, WWII. Obi was an invited guest and attended the 164th Reunion in Minneapolis, Minnesota, October 13, 1963. Prior to the reunion in Minneapolis, Obi traveled from Tokyo, Japan, at a stop over in Anchorage, Alaska. Yasuo Obi met with two former members of the 164th Infantry, Jack Connelly, M Company and Joe LaFournaise, I Company.

Obi traveled from Minneapolis, MN accompanied by Lou Borshiem, L Company, Jim Fenelon, Service Company, and Rev. Otania acting as the interpreter. Luncheon/dinner meetings were held with former member of WWII 164th in Fargo, Valley City, Dickinson, Bismarck, and Grand Forks. Obi was one of the guest speakers at the banquet



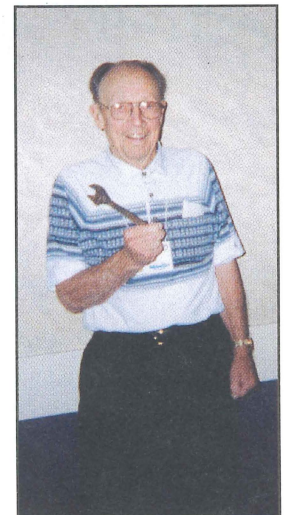
in Minneapolis along with Joe E. Brown a famous comedian and Movie Star. At a later date, Yasuo Obi was voted in as a Honorary member of the 164th Infantry Association. Russel Opat and wife Donna were going on a trip to Tokyo, Japan so the Association asked Opat to present the 164th Infantry Association membership card to Yasuo Obi. Opat presented the membership to Obi in the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, Japan, April 28, 1977.

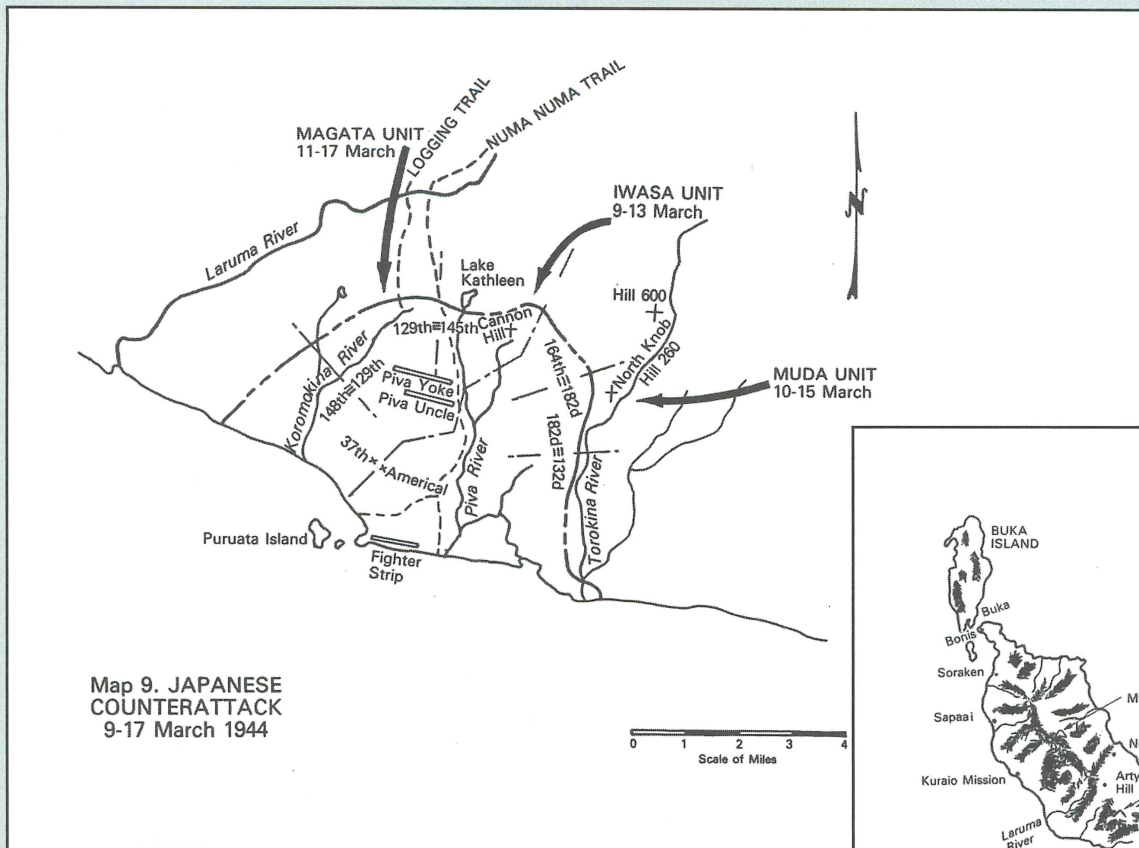
Obi was among the 13,000 Japanese soldiers evacuated from Guadalcanal by the Tokyo Express at night in 1943.



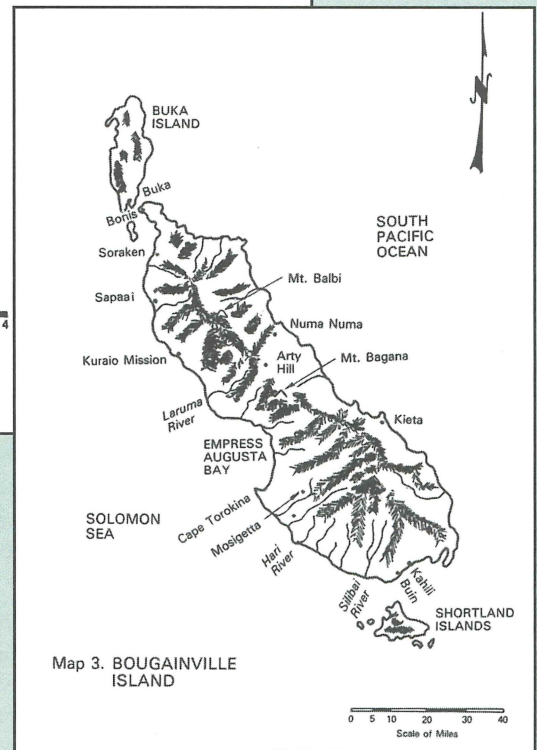
*H Company 164th Fiji Islands
(Left to Right): Weber, Frenchie, Lundy, Durham, Divers,
and Oscar Rick in the rear*

*Elmo (Mr. Goodwrench???)
Olson, G. Company was with
the 164th group that returned
to Guadalcanal in 1992.
Elmo lifted a crescent (very
rusted) wrench from an
abandoned amphibious duc
on the beach at Guadalcanal.*



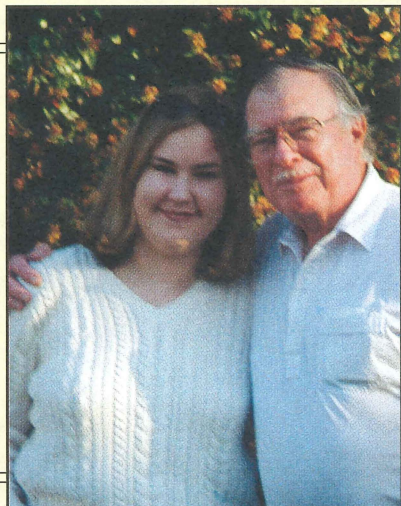


Map 9. JAPANESE COUNTERATTACK 9-17 March 1944



Map 3. BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND

Japanese Plan Attack March 8th From Behind Hill IIII



Bob Ford, A Company, and granddaughter taken November 25, 1998. Ford lives in California and joined the 164th as a replacement on Bougainville. Bob come join us at a 164th reunion, Fargo, ND, September 22-23-24, 2000.

Japanese General Hyakutake's Message to Attacking Japanese Troops.

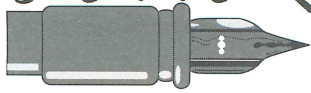
The time has come to manifest our knighthood with the pure brilliance of the sword. It is our duty to erase the mortification of our brothers at Guadalcanal. Attack! Assault! Destroy everything! Cut, slash and mow them down. May the color of the red emblem of our arms be deepened with the blood of the American rascals. Our cry of victory at Torokina Bay will be shouted resoundingly to our native land.

We are invincible! Always attack. Security is the greatest enemy. Always be alert. Execute silently. Always be clear.²⁶

Not to be outdone, General Kanda in his order of the day of 24 February exhorted his troops:

To avenge our mortification since Guadalcanal
 Will be our duty true and supreme.
 Strike, strike, then strike again
 Until our enemy is humbled forevermore!
 Brighten with the blood of the American devils
 The color of the renowned insignia on our arms.
 The cry of our victory at Torokina Bay
 Shall resound to the shores of our beloved Nippon.
 We are invincible!
 No foe can equal our might;
 To attain our aims we must always attack
 And our enemies we must smite.
 Danger comes soonest when it is despised,
 Caution and prudence will bring no grief.
 Serve in silence and bear all pain.
 The shame of our souls will give us strength
 To preserve our nation and our glory.²⁷

LETTERS



To The Editor :

September 23, 1998

Dear Jim:

You are certainly doing a great job editing the 164th News!

Of course anything you print about Guadalcanal I must read and digest. Your recent issue (I believe written by Doc Muehrcke was excellent but the good doctor did not do much research on the Naval Battle during the early morning of November 13, 1942.

Actually the very worst loss the Navy suffered during the campaign was the Battle of Savo Island where we, indeed, lost 4 cruisers (3 American and one Australian). Doc. is certainly correct in saying our losses on Friday the 13th of November (with 13 ships in column) were severe. Fact is that the Navy, in a ten hour period, lost within 300 of the total Marine losses on Guadalcanal in their 4-6 months on the "canal." However, that night the objective of that American Task Force was to stop the Japanese from bombarding Guadalcanal as they had the previous 13th of October. Many of the men in the 164th should remember that night. What a way to be initiated into battle!!!! To the Navy's credit the Japanese Task Force did not land one shell on Guadalcanal that early morning.

By the way, the fine ship of USS JUNEAU did not sink----it blew up! Only 10 survivors from a crew of about 700. She was hit by a torpedo fired by a Japanese submarine.

Please note I'm not in any way trying to degrade Dr. Muehrcke's work, after all he was writing about the 132nd Army Regiment and not about the U.S.N. His book is worthwhile reading.

Aloha,

Ted Blahnik
Echoes Editor/Director
P.O. Box 181
Coloma, MI 49038
(616) 468-5938

Jim,

Here is \$250 for the 164th News. If you need any more money help just call me. Keep up the good work.

The Old Sgt. Major
Don Van Slyke

(Ed Van Slyke answered Last Roll Call 20 January 2000)

Please help us get the word out about a recent change in the law that will benefit surviving spouses of deceased veterans.

In 1990, surviving spouses who remarried were no longer eligible for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation. As of Oct. 1, 1998, the Veterans Benefits Act permits restoration of DIC payments to a surviving spouse if the remarriage is terminated through death, divorce or annulment.

This is an important resource for veterans' surviving spouses who often have limited means of support. We are concerned that Veterans' Affairs may not be able to reach all of these spouses, and hope that your column will let them know they once again might be entitled to this benefit. Those who think they are eligible should contact their local VA Regional Office or call VA toll-free at 1-800-827-1000.

On behalf of the entire Department of Veterans Affairs and the millions of veterans and family members who rely on us, thank you for helping us spread the word on this important change.

Togo D. West, Jr.
Secretary of Veterans Affairs

January 3, 2000

Dear Sirs,

Please reinstate me to the 164th Inf. News for whatever time you can give me. As I miss the News. Send it to:

Authur Johnson
313 E Main St.
Belle Plaine, Minn 56011

I enclosed \$20 to reinstate me.

January 4, 2000

Editor 164th News,

Enclosed is check for \$100 for continuing the 164th News for five years.

I am a Life Member since 1973.

The News edition is very informative and colorful with lots of new stories and once again I thank you for a marvelous paper.

Have a good new year,

Thank you

Norman and Virginia Samson
700 Barsby St
Vista, CA 92084-2602

(Editor's note: Samson was with 164th group that returned to Guadalcanal in October 1992)

Dear Sirs:

After reading the 164th News and at my age of 80, when one's emotions and memories seem to persist a lot more, I can again truthfully say what a wonderful newspaper.

Your account of Guadalcanal and Doug Burtell's account of Bougainville has prompted me to reminisce on my army duty as a runner as no one has been portrayed, as such, as yet; therefore I will attempt to give a picture of what I did.

First of all a runner carries messages between headquarter (the high brass) and the Company Officer in charge on the front lines and back again.

I can recall on one instance my buddies and I took a message to our company commander at night when you couldn't see your hand in front of your face; my buddy said he knew the trail so I put my hand on his shoulders in order not to lose him; and my hair was standing on end (it felt that way) and after we felt we were at our destination we said Co. "B", Co. "B" and we received an answer; as we were right in the middle of Co. "B" and didn't know it.

Another time during the day we were ordered to take a message to our company and it was my buddies turn to go; but alas we were being shelled and he wouldn't go; so I grabbed the message and ran on the ridge with shrapnel flying all around; and a piece of hot shrapnel skinned me; but I kept going and made the delivery. As a runner I did confront Japs but managed to come out on top and get the message through.

There were other close calls that we all had which I won't elaborate on.

I am sending my \$20 check for the 164th News

Jim I have a question: Herb Glasow was wounded in his face by shrapnel the same time the Burns brothers had shrapnel hit them; and then later on in Bouganville, Herb shot himself. Why in the heck couldn't the army have reported him killed in action? Such devastating news for his parents to receive that their son had killed himself. (I knew his parents). I know army rules but I still think K.I.A. would have sounded better.

Sincerely,

V.R. Powerr

Company "B" 164th Inf. Reg.

816 Nez Perce Dr.

Hamilton, MT 59840-9010

.....

Tony Hannel

1001 Rosewood Ave.

San Carlos, CA 94970-3837

P.S. I will send a copy of our fishing expedition to Doctor David S. Marshall.

(Editor's note: Hannel was with the 164th group that revisited Guadalcanal October 1992.)

January 5, 2000

Dear Sir,

On 11/27/99 I sent you my check #911 for \$50 for our 164th Inf. Assn. Today I am adding \$50 more so now this totals \$100.

Again I wish to compliment you and your staff for your outstanding work. Please keep the printings like your December issue. Color and all, I shall save all my copies on file.

Enclosed is my article related to an incident that took place on Bougainville in 1944 when we were engaged in so called road block action where no roads existed. Anyhow our Bn. Surgeon and I went fishing in our spare time to a close by spot that looked promising.

The enclosed letter tells what happened. That event is still as vivid to me as if it only happened a few days ago.

Again thank you and your fine staff for your top notch work.

TRAILBLOCK ACTION ON BOUGAINVILLE, on or about 26 July, 1944. 164th Infantry, 1st Bn. in vicinity of Nip Hill and the Laruna River, supported by 254th FA Bn., also the 93rd Recon. Troop, plus a Wardog Platoon and several native carriers.

In the December 1, 1999 issue of the 164th Infantry News, page 5, Bn. Surgeon David S. Marshall, MD, describes an event in which he and I were involved. I had two Composition "C" explosives, not grenades as he wrote. Our plan was to catch some fresh fish for dinner, to supplement our dry rations.

After selecting a spot on the bank of the Laruna River, about thirty meters wide, just below a waterfall, I tied the two Composition "C" explosives together, inserted a fuse, and connected it to a primer cord (a short cord). I then activated the explosive packet and threw it into the fast-flowing stream just below the waterfall.

Within seconds we witnessed an awesome explosion that cascaded the water up into a huge column to a height of 40-50 feet, an unexpected geyser-like eruption that hesitated at its top some seconds before dropping down. Adding to our amazement there were many fish floating belly-up, and a huge eel about four feet long. Wading into the stream, I quickly retrieved the eel which we than took to Bn. HQ area and were told it would be good to eat. The native carriers admired our trophy (the eel), so we gave it to them. I still wonder if we denied ourselves a good meal by giving the eel away.

Both Dave and I had a remarkable demonstration of the destructive power of Composition "C". With Dr. Marshall I had the right backup should my demonstration have gone awry. I am sure that those of us in that location at the time recall that the Laruna River in flash-flood stage caused loss of life and collateral damage to our supplies and gear.

.....

Courage can be as contagious as fear.

— Eleanor Roosevelt

January 7, 2000

Please find inclosed a check for \$10. Would you please send me a years subscription of The 164th News.

Thank you,

Dolores E. Hoff
(Mrs. Donald Hoff)
923 Bradley Ave.
Eau Claire, WI 54701-67516

January 24, 2000

Dear Sir:

Thanks for publishing my letter asking for information relating to my father and his WWII service with the 164th. It resulted in contacts with some old friends of my dad that have been very rewarding. I also very much enjoyed the back issues of the News that you sent. I'd like to keep receiving them throughout this year, and am enclosing a check to cover an associate membership. If possible, I'd also like to get your December issue (Vol. 39, No. 4). Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Robert Dodd
9183 E Courthouse Blvd. Ct.
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

(Editor's note: Bob Dodd was in Regimental Hqds. Co.)

January 10, 2000

Dear Jim,

The 164th Newsletter is truly a work of art and dedication. Enclosed is a check for \$100 in memory of Eli to go to your newsletter fund. He was always happy to see it in his mail! (And read it over and over with comments along the way!) Anyway, you and Ben are doing a superior job – it would be a shame to discontinue it. A lot of people very disappointed, to say the least.

Hope you are doing great.

Always, all the best. See you next summer at class reunion.

Marjorie Dobervich
312 Burke Blvd.
Devils Lake, ND 58301

Got note from the 164th Newsletter and sent a \$100 check. Its a great newsletter.

Good Luck

Lorraine Cecil

(Editor's note: Lorraine is the widow of Jim Cecil, E Company. Jim Cecil answered Last Roll Call in August 1999. Cecil was a member of the 164th group that returned to Guadalcanal, October, 1992.)

Dear Jim:

Here is \$20 for the paper. I guess we could get along without color.

On a humorous note: we were pulled off the Mantikau Ridge on the way back. "Len" Pharr (our platoon Sgt.) and I were bringing up the rear. A voice spoke up and asked if we were a pretty tough outfit. Without looking up, Pharr said, "You God-damn right." I looked in the direction of the voice and it was General Patch. No more was said.

You are doing a damn good job on the paper. Keep it up.

Don L. Hoffman
Company H
702 12th Ave. SE
Jamestown, ND 58401-4903

(Editor's note: The General asked and received a straight truthful answer.)

Dear Ben

Check for \$50 for Life Membership. Probably will still continue to pay dues, etc...

Will also try and get my daughter involved.

Have a Merry Christmas

Robert Olson
709 Jackson Ave.
Nixa, MO 65714-8463

December 30, 1999

Dear Sirs:

I would like to continue to receive the 164th Infantry News. So I am sending you my permanent new address. I am a paid Life Member. I was in H Company mortars from 1941-1945 until I was rotated.

Last spring I sent about 12 pictures taken on the 'Canal, Fiji, and Bougainville but I have yet to see them in the 164th Infantry News. What happened.

Thank you so much.

Warren O. Brodie
5584 River Oaks Dr.
Titusville, FL 32780-7044

Sorry I must have forgotten, check for \$20, \$10 for dues and \$10 to help out with the cost's, consider it a fine for my lateness.

Richard G. McLester
1283 Leisure World
Mesa, AZ 85206-3006

I copied this from the Americal List Server. I knew Warren Freeman through the internet only. He was a 1st Sgt. in 164th, G Co., I believe. Passed away last fall. Thought this might be of interest to you.

A Random Act of Kindness

W. Warren Freeman and Russ Carnahan

By Cecilia Rothenberger

In this fast-paced day and age where modernity is letting technology take over the work of humans, random acts of kindness and pure philanthropy are with stories, truly humanitarian in nature that, in a brief moment, can restore a sense of faith in mankind. This is our first story of a random act of kindness.

This summer, a simple deeply affected the life of W. Warren Freeman, an ailing World War II veteran. Freeman had been suffering from a rare form of cancer called Waldenstrom's, and in April was hospitalized for three and a half weeks. Upon his release, he was still determined to attend a military unit, the Americal, in St. Louis. Freeman and his daughter, Patricia Price, wanted to copy old photographs of his years in the war, serving in the Philippines and Japan. However, they had not anticipated the high cost of duplicating photographs, which one shop quoted at more than \$1,000.

Upon calling Legal Eagle on Augusta Road, Price spoke with Russ Carnahan and discovered that the copies could be done in time for the reunion of her father's division, and that Russ would deliver them to her at work. When he arrived, photos in hand, she asked him how much it could cost her. To her astonishment, Russ replied, "Anyone who put their life on the line for their country deserves a lot more. I just want your dad to know that I haven't forgotten."

Arriving home, Price told her father what had occurred, and when he heard what Russ had said, he cried. Together, father and daughter bought Russ a book called The Greatest Generation, by Tom Brokaw, and glued a photograph of Freeman in uniform in 1944, to the first page. The initial meeting of these two men, along with the book and a note of thanks, left both speechless, with lumps in their throats.

Then, on August 5, I had an opportunity to meet Freeman and Carnahan, and invited them to lunch, which had been offered by Jersey Mike's Giant Subs & Salads.

We looked at the historic pictures and heard a bit Freeman's reminiscing about the war, the letters from his wife, his friends in the service. Warren Freeman and Russ Carnahan had forged a unique relationship in the short time they had been acquainted, a testament to the raw power of a random act of kindness. Mr. Freeman passed away on August 21, knowing that his service to our country was deeply appreciated.

October 1999 Greenville (SC) Magazine

Reprinted with permission

Art Hanley

19453 Hickox Rd.

Mount Vernon, WA 98274

Dear Jim,

We look forward to the newsletter. Enclosed is a check to help keep it going, you do a fine job. Ray has not felt the best and sorry we were unable to make the reunion. We are looking forward to next year.

Happy Holidays to all. John Landowski is my brother.

Sincerely,

Ray & Irene Arneson

1505 Irene Dr.

Boulder City, NV 89005-3611

(Editor's note: Thanks for your support)

Gentlemen:

By all means do not discontinue the 164th Inf. Ass. quarterly newsletter.

My wife and I await anxiously for the quarterly newsletter, because it does contain so many memories and pictures of the 164th Inf. in the south pacific during WWII. I served with K Co. in the 164th.

Hope everyone will make a contribution to this valued newsletter. It is read from cover to cover.

Enclosed is check for \$20 for 164th News.

Sincerely

Bernard Scheer

502 Jackson St.

Hutchinson, MN 55350-9076

11-22-99

Dear Sir,

Thanks for the nice letter. Enclosed is \$100 for the paper. I really enjoy them. I fought with Co. B 164th Inf. in Bougainville and all through the Philippines and spent 6 months in Japan after the war was over. The 164th is a fine outfit and I was proud to serve in it. God Bless all you guys.

Mr. Elmer Eilers

612 Pine Ridge Dr., #6

Paris, TN 38242

Hi Jim

I sent \$20 to help keep the 164th Newsletter going. I really enjoy receiving it.

"Gen" Swenson

1007 18th Ave. S

Grand Forks, ND 58201-6827

(Editor's note: "Gen" Swenson is a Associate Member and the widow of Ken Swenson, M Company - WWII)

12-17-99

Here is a check for \$100. \$50 for a Life Membership and \$50 for my contribution for the Infantry News.

I always look forward to receive the news. It keeps us up on whatever goes on in the reunions and how some of the fellows are doing.

T Sgt. Stanley Oshaben
35025 Martin Rd.
Willoughby, OR 44094
Co. C 164th

December 23, 1999

Hello Alvin, Vernon, Ben & Jim:

You guys are doing a terrific job publishing the 164th Infantry Newsletter. I hope you can continue. If need be, maybe you can put out just two editions yearly.

Don't give up!

Say Hello to my old pal Jim Fenelon. I'm sorry I don't remember Alvin, Vernon & Ben.

Sincerely,

Neil Tennyson
18245 Osborne St.
North Ridge, CA 91325

30 November 99

To Alvin Tollefsrud, President,

If you need \$20 you need \$100!

My pleasure,

Mark Durley
4884 North Veau Ness Blvd.
Fresno, CA 93704-3123

11-22-99

Dear Ben,

Enclosed find a check for \$60 to keep the newsletter going for at least another 3 years. Thank you for your prompt attention in reinstating me on the mailing list. Sorry about the post office mix-up. I enjoy the newsletter immensely. Planning on being present at the Fargo reunion. Thank you again.

In comradeship

William Hanson
1233 E Puerta Vista
Bullhead City, AZ 86442-7642

11-22-99

Dear Sirs,

Got your request for the news letter, so I'm sending my dues in. Also am sending two copys of interest (may be printable, if not enjoy it).

Thank you

Mr. Edward Gaik
2055 N Newland Ave.
Chicago, IL 60707-3335

P.S. Looking for the 164th Newsletters, as I enjoy reading them.

Dear Sir:

Someone's fiscal responsibility has been forgotten in the publishing of the 164th Infantry News. We cannot afford the use of color in the current pictures.

Jim Fenelon, looks beautiful in color but like so many lawyers "We can't afford the price of the models."

Reduce the content to about a dozen pages; keep it in black and white. As long as Jim insists on color, do it by giving him a pink slip.

Have you ever printed the story of the 164th Inf. Band as written by T. Sgt. Frank Schoeffler of the band? Its three pages long and I can send you a reprint if you can use it.

A faithful supporter up to the present time.

I was a member of the Medics from May 1941 until July 27, 1945, when we left Cebu by Hospital boat.

Sincerely,

Edward Mulligan
1032 Rossman Ave.
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-3310

11-22-99

Dear Sir,

I'm sending a check for \$60. I would like to have the Association phone number. Thank you

God bless and have a nice Thanksgiving.

Mr. Paul Dowhaniuk
600 SE 71st Ave.
Portland, OR 97215-2134

Hi Jim:

I received my newsletter and you are doing a tremendous job. It's so improved it's outstanding. Thanks for the plug for my book, too.

The quality of the color and pictures is really good, too, and it's what makes such a newsletter reach out to people. I've found that plain copy is a yawner for most, and breaking it up with cartoons and pictures makes all the difference in readership.

Not that any paper isn't valuable to a group like yours...it's what holds them together. I think this is why the 132nd gave up its group identity, no one took over a paper for them. Now, the Guadalcanal Campaign Veterans are faced with it. Ted Blahnik their long time editor and best one, has done his last issue, and resigned due to health and other considerations. If they can't find a successor, and few will volunteer at this stage of the game, it will be the end except for a small clique at the center.

We are hoping to publish my book shortly. Rick Holst, editor from Cape Elizabeth Press, was down for final checkups a week or so ago, and is waiting for the bar code and Library of Congress approval. Rick is a veteran of Vietnam, with the 1st Infantry Division, and is excited about someone who was there telling about it. He feels too much is written by people who were never there to experience the war.

My former professor after the war was Samuel Eliot Morison, who wrote the multi volume "History of Naval Operations in WW 2" and he was given carte blanche by FDR to travel all over the world as a Naval Officer, sitting in on plans for invasions, etc., and to participate. It's what makes his books still so readable. He was the one who explained why we were dumped in the ocean off the LSM when we invaded Cebu. The Japs had rigged a log boom underwater. He claims had they stayed on the beach to fight instead of retreating to the Babag Ridge, they might have repulsed our landing. Good luck, buddy, keep up the good work.

Regards,

William J. McLaughlin
155 River Ridge Dr.
Marstons Mills, MA 02648



Enclosed check to help continue the 164th Newsletter. Thanks to all concerned for carrying on and improving the letter.

Sorry we were unable to attend the reunion this year but both look forward to next year in Fargo, the good Lord willing.

Do any of the members have E-mail addresses. It would be fun to correspond via E-mail. Ours is odieinch@aol.

Sincerely,

Emil I Blomstrann
32 Foxon Pl.
New Britain, CT 06053-2532

11-27-99

Hello Jim,

This is one of the few times I've been in touch with you since we both came back to the States from "Canal" to become an aviation cadet (we thought). After the blanket washout of 36,000 cadets I was placed back into an Infantry outfit the Co. A of the 261st Inf. Reg. 65th Division and went to Europe (shortly after the Bulge) through the Saar Basin, Germany and ended up in Enns, Austria across the Enns River from the Russian Army. I was 3rd high pointer from the Division and was in Salzburg Austria, one month, before going to Marseille, France to ship home.

A lot of strange and interesting incidents occur during a war but one I experienced in Germany was our Infantry unit was being forwarded by a field artillery unit. I was riding on the tail gate of a 6x6 truck my feet over the gun tongue, the snow was heavy, the sky dark of the late hour. On either side of the road, a German patrol was walking on either side of the road in the opposite direction. We had taken the wrong fork of a y and ended up in Germany bivouac area. All of a sudden the convey stopped and the gunney Sgt. hollared the length of the convey. "Uncouple these "G.D." guns and turn the truck around and get the hell out of here".

As I bailed out along with the rest of the men, we witnessed the Germans all huddled around small fires. We made our reverse movement and retreated from the scene with out a shot being fired.

The enclosed article is about the death of my Platoon Sgt. from Guadalcanal, well respected. I belong to an organization called Footprinters, comprised 50% law enforcement and 50% business people interested in and supportive of law enforcement. Each year our group is party to the honoring of fallen officials the past year. Where they offered the badge (of one fallen) to his father, the father was sitting right ahead of me. When he stood up to accept the badge, I realized it was my old Platoon Sgt. E. Hofferman whom I hadn't seen in 50 years. We had a brief but quality visit reminiscing the past what a small world. His son was one of two sheriff's deputies killed by a crazed young man over on the west side of this state (Washington).

I just sent in a small donation towards the continuing of the organization printing but I've wanted to touch base with you before I let it slip by. Hope to see you at the next reunion.

Not having your home address, I'm sending it to Bismarck with a request to forward it.

Best regards,

Dwight Petty
302 W Rainer Way
Spokane, WA 99208

(Editor's note: Yes I remember our attempt to be fly boys. I remember seeing you at Kessler Field, Augusta, GA and at the last reunion in Williston, 1992. You really had a wild experience in Europe. I was placed in a Top Secret Hqds. in Oakland, CA. Had a civilian woman (all very good looking) driver for daylight activities and a WAC driver at night to deliver decoded top secret messages to various locations in the San Francisco-Oakland Bay area. I was living off the base and paid a per diem by the Air Force. Really tough duty. The army provided a staff car and it had to be on call 24 hrs a day.)

23 November 1999

Dear Ben,

Enclosed find my check for \$20. Sorry we couldn't make it to the reunion. On the same date we had the 24th Inf. Div. reunion in Tulsa, OK., and I was committed to go there this year. We will try to make it next year. We went to the Company G reunion this summer in Valley City, boy the guys are getting fewer.

I have lost a step on my drive to the basket, but I can still shoot if no one guards me. Have a good holiday season, and we hope to see you next summer.

Ed Otto
1009 18th St. SW
Willmar, MN 56201-2704

.....

November 24, 1999

To the 164th Association,

Hi to all,

I have expected this sooner or later. I know the ranks are getting a lot thinner these past years. After all we are not young kids anymore. Not when we hit the beach on the Canal. I am now seventy seven years old and don't get around so well anymore and have a lot of doctor bills so I can not afford more than \$20 a year. I am not a rich man and on a fixed income. And I don't want to drop out if I can help it. What I want to know is this a extra donation or is this new dues? So let me know if you will. I know a lot of organizations are hurting for members. I know the Americal DIV has had to lower the dues to get new members. I just paid \$6 from \$12 the year before. Well enough of this for now. Have any of you guys been reading about the Canal? I am reading a book written by the British District Officer of the Canal by the name of Martin Clemens. The name of the book is "Alone on Guadalcanal a Coast Watchers Story". I remember him and I met him once he was in charge of the native scouts and porters for the Marines and us. I drove him and General Vandegriff the Marine General along on Second Battalion lines on Henderson Field. He also tells how he had to hide from the Japs before the Marines landed. He tells of our landing and the battles we had along with the Marines and thought the 164th did a great job. I am reading another book about "The Canal Named Guadalcanal a American Story". I am a Associate Member of the US Naval Institute and get all my books form them. I am not a voting member because I didn't belong to the Navy. I have 164th as part of my membership number. Well enough of this. Stay well and have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fraternally yours,

Victor Athias
266 Miller Ave. Apt 2
Mill Valley, CA 94941-2883

(Editor's note: Ben Kemp, Sec./Treas. wrote to Athias and explained the dues and donations for 164th News.)

11-27-99

Guys,

If my health stays good for another five years and you need more help for the newsletter, (Hollar)!

I enjoy the newsletter, it keeps me in touch with some names and places.

Take care and best wishes.

Sincerely,
Gilbert F. Hammargren
32266 Virgo St. NE
North Branch, MN 55056

.....

Dear Sirs:

I received your letter of 20 November 99, addressed to the 164th Association members asking for contributions to keep the 164th Infantry News going.

I suggest you go back and read the minutes of the last reunion and send a complete list of the suggestions made by the members for all the members to vote on as agreed on at the meeting.

I do not agree with this.

Sincerely,
Peter H. Grant
503 4th Ave. South
P.O. Box 223
Strum, WI 54770-0223

.....

Jim,

Lets keep the old Newsletter going. Not that I have contributed anything, I do enjoy reading it.

Do keep up the good work. I know it is hard to dig up old news as most of us have little to contribute. Enclosed is \$20 for the 164th News.

The best to all,

Bob Burns
Service Co.
8021 Old Pacific Hwy. N
Castle Rock, WA 98611-9629

.....

"Poor is the Nation That Has No Heroes; Shameful Is The Nation That Has Them and Forgets."

— William S. Morris

Jim,

The high powered Japanese binoculars used by Secretary Knox (page 20, December 1999 News) some of this equipment was assigned to the 164th Recon Platoon. The binoculars were mounted on a tripod and painted green.

After the 164th left Guadalcanal and sailed to Fiji, the Recon Platoon was on outpost duty on some mountains about 7 or 8 miles from Suva. Our mission was to observe the vast ocean for any approaching enemy navy submarines or bombers. The binoculars were strong enough so one could read the clock on the docks in Suva, Fiji. Be nice to have the binoculars for hunting deer in ND.

“Doug” Burtell
1002 Sunset St.
Bowman, ND 58623-4401

11-24-99

Alvin Tollefsrud, President

Yes, over the many years I’ve enjoyed the Newsletter **very much!** As others, I’d like for it to be continued, at least for now.

However, if my mathematical calculations are correct, it’s been a long time since we left Fargo on Feb. 10, 1941, almost 59 years! And it’s been a long time since October in 1942 when we landed on Guadalcanal.

I guess that’s another way of saying that we’re all getting older and that we lose a few long-time friends every year. So I’m enclosing a check for \$60 for the next three years, after which it is my recommendation that the topic be discussed one again seriously. As much as we hate to face reality, there will come a time when there will be too few of us left to justify the effort, let alone the cost. Am I right?

By the way Jim Fenelon has been doing a great job in recent months and years! (Hi Jim, keep up the good work.)

Perhaps another year I’ll once again get back to another reunion. But each year it seems to take just a bit more motivation to do any traveling at all.

Say hello to Tony Beer for me if you happen to see him.

Sincerely,

Raymond F. Ellerman
2825 Legend Dr.
Las Vegas, NV 89134

11-22-99

164th Inf. Assoc.,

Enclosed is my check for \$20 donation for 1 year. Wouldn’t it cut down on your cost if you sent out the newsletter 2 or 3 times a year?

I fought with the 1st Division and they just send out their Newsletter twice a year. \$20 a year is fine with me.

Howard Breman
800 West 6th St.
Gilroy, CA 95020
(408) 842-3083

(Editor’s note: Preliminary research indicates that the changing publication to 2 or 3 times a year would increase the postal rates as the newsletter would be in a different classification. Also postal rates are going to be increased in year 2000 and 2001 plus printing costs increased 3 times in 1999 and probably will increase again.)

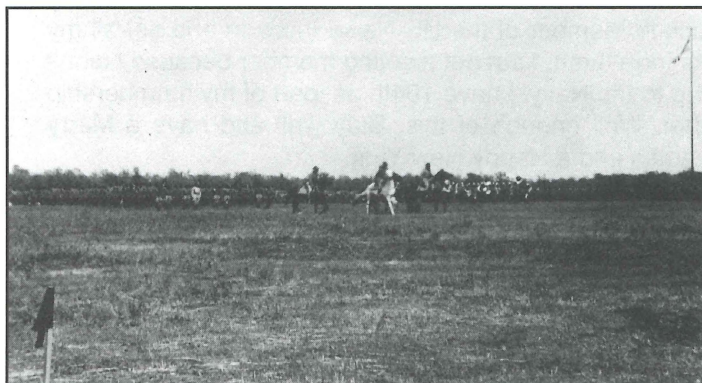
Bula Jim,

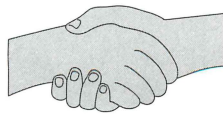
In the Editor’s note page 20 of the December 1999 News you mentioned unloading aviation high test gasoline from a liberty ship, well I also was on the same work detail. Very interesting night watching the bombing from the deck of the Liberty ship anchored off Tulagi.

Louie Borshiem
4101 19th Ave. SW
Fargo, ND 58103

Governor Day Camp Grafton, ND

The 164th Infantry passing in review before the Governor of ND at the Annual two encampment. The officers were mounted on spirited horses. The officers were not very good horsemen but managed to stay on their horses to complete the review for the governor. (Circa 1939/40)





New Life Members

Orein G. DeLap 12 Dec., 1999 Cape Coral, FL
 Glenn Fleck 02 Feb., 2000 Minot, ND
 Clifford C. Martin 16 Sept., 1999 Bismarck, ND
 William Mack 10 Mar., 2000 Sacramento, CA
 Robert J. Olson 14 Dec., 1999 Nixa, MO
 Stanley Oshaben 23 Dec., 1999 Willoughby, OH
 * Dorothy J. Sande 10 Feb., 2000 Bismarck, ND
 Bill Mack 10 Mar., 2000 Sacramento, CA
 * Associate Member

Re-Instated Member

Louis A. Borshian L. Company Fargo, ND

DEFIANCE AT DAWN

<i>Another day!</i>	<i>What machine gun</i>
<i>And here I am</i>	<i>Or mortar shell</i>
<i>Alive and well.</i>	<i>Will find its mark?</i>
<i>Yes, I might say</i>	
<i>I'm feeling swell,</i>	<i>What bursting bomb</i>
<i>In spite of Japs,</i>	<i>Or what grenade</i>
<i>In spite of hell.</i>	<i>Thrown in the night</i>
<i>Does it grieve you, Death,</i>	<i>Be beforehand warned</i>
<i>That I defy you,</i>	<i>And plan it well</i>
<i>That I refuse to be taken by</i>	<i>If you intend my doom to</i>
<i>you?</i>	<i>spell</i>
<i>Then on the morrow</i>	<i>For I intend to fight.</i>
<i>Try again,</i>	<i>-Anonymous</i>
<i>Perhaps I'll now get by again.</i>	
<i>That sniper,</i>	
<i>Hidden in the trees,</i>	
<i>Lies in wait,</i>	
<i>Prepared to squeeze</i>	
<i>The trigger.</i>	

OBITUARIES

An obituary is generally the last public notice of an individuals existence on earth. Therefore it should be prepared carefully covering all the facts. Among the more important facts is the military service of the deceased such as the identification of the military unit Regiment, Company Unit, Division and the dates of service. The Military Heritage Center, University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, North Dakota is starting a collection of WWII personnel for historical research. Copies of past obituaries are acceptable. Please send to Military Heritage Center, Chester Fritz Library - University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, North Dakota 58202-7144.

Also in preparation be sure to list the company unit and regiment.

New Members

* Robert P. Dodd 27 Jan., 2000 Inver Grove Heights, MN
 * Gregory Heinz 23 Dec., 1999 Bismarck, ND
 * Delores E. Hoff 11 Jan., 2000 Eua Claire, WI
 * Karen A. Olson 15 Jan., 2000 Oklahoma City, KS
 * Dr. John Sagehorn 18 Jan., 2000 Wayzata, MN
 * Fred Whisenhand Jr. 06 Jan., 2000 Rancho Mirage, CA
 Lewis A. Borsheim 29 Mar., 2000 Fargo, ND
 Roy H. Hamer 11 Apr., 2000 Fargo, ND
 * Allen W. Schuldt 18 Mar., 2000 Valley City, ND
 * Associate Member

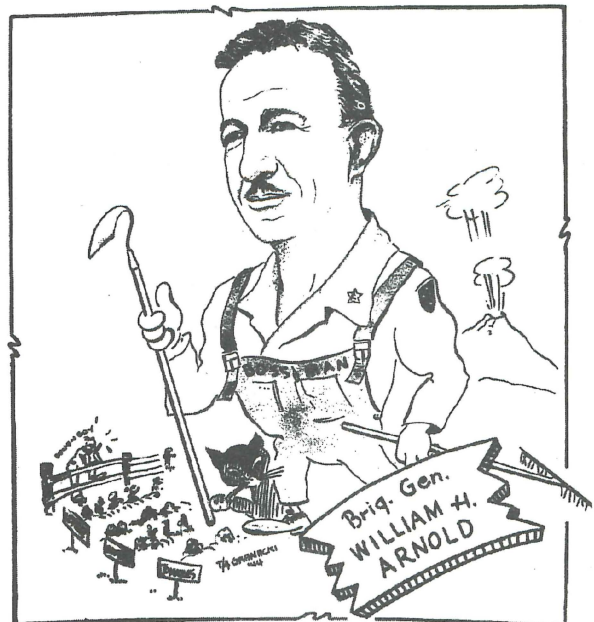
164TH INFANTRY ASSOCIATION 55TH ANNUAL REUNION

Date: September 22, 23, 24, 2000

Where: Fargo, North Dakota

Hotel: Holiday Inn - (701) 282-2700

The reunion committee is busy formulating plans for a happy and enjoyable time for old friends to meet again to recall experiences of the 164th in WWII and the recall to active duty in the Korean Conflict and Camp Rucker, Alabama. Mark your calendar and set your plans for the reunion in September, 2000.



Does anyone have information about the gardens planted on Bouganville in WWII?

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

But early September 1945. Japanese officials already were deliberately trying to turn the use of the atomic bombs against the United States, as summaries of decoded messages make clear.

That propaganda strategy has succeeded far beyond expectation—both in Japan and in the United States.

Taken from the Chicago Tribune
Written by Joan Beck.
Sent in by Leonard Owczarsak.

AMERICAN TROOPS MARCH THROUGH TOKYO:
18 COMBAT UNITS TO OCCUPY JAPAN

Tokyo (AP)—A three-mile-long parade, led by Supreme Commander General Douglas MacArthur, swept through the ruins of this defeated Japanese capital this morning, the first time in history that occupation forces have entered this subdued metropolis.

More than 15,000 men of the 1st Cavalry Division will parade behind General MacArthur before the historic march will finish this morning.

Last night and this morning this city was out under a tight curfew, although no trouble was anticipated during the march.

Scout patrols of the 1st Cavalry Division entered the Japanese capital yesterday and ran up the historic, globe-flying American flag over General MacArthur's Tokyo Headquarters in the former American Embassy building. This same flag flew over American Headquarters in Casablanca, Rome, Paris and Berlin. It was flown to General MacArthur's Headquarters shortly after the Japanese surrender became official.

So far not one American casualty has been reported, indicating that the Japanese are giving complete co-operation in the Allied occupation.

General MacArthur disclosed yesterday that 8 combat divisions, totaling more than 100,000 men with other units will comprise the occupation forces for Japan and South Korea.

(Taken from 'THE AMERICAN-News of the World-Saturday, September 8, 1945).

Sent in by Mitchell Pillarick
B Company - 164th Infantry

PAY RAISE

As a young soldier still looking for adventure and the winning of the war, I already had gotten two pay raises. One for being promoted to PFC and the other for being overseas. Then one day the company clerk handed me a directive pointing out another pay raise.

RESTRICTED

AMERICAN DIVISION
APO 716

168 5 November 1944

SUBJECT: Combat Infantryman Badge.

TO: Personnel who hold the Combat Infantryman Badge.

1. You are receiving this extra money because you, personally, went out and faced the enemy, and the United States of America appreciates it.

Because of having engaged in combat, you, more than anybody else, wish to see this war brought to an early and victorious end. That requires not only your services, but every dollar you can make available to the United States to help provide materials to defeat the enemy.

2. When the war is over and you return to civilian life, the government will provide for your further education. That alone is not sufficient, and money is a most important factor in post-war readjustment. Now, better than any other time, can you provide the necessary reserve for post-war plans: savings, home buying, education for your children, plus a few of the luxuries you hope to enjoy. Also, taxes are inevitable. The income tax you are now accruing must be paid within ninety days after you return to the United States.

3. You owe it to yourself to provide for the future. What better method is there than taking this extra money and putting it, one hundred percent, into War Bonds, in addition to what you are now purchasing?

Robert B. McClure
Major General, United States Army,
Commanding.

The directive had little effect on my monetary thinking, but it did have a great deal of effect on my ego. I had earned the Combat Infantry Badge. Although I did not see the award I prized it.

My going home uniform issued at separation center had in place my ribbons, stripes and that glistening Combat Infantry Badge. The uniform was worn only for a few hours and then stored away. The badge will forever be worn in my mind and memories. Worn in my mind with some sadness. Sadness for some of my friends who never got to wear or even see the badge they earned.

COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE

I am enclosing thoughts and a document that may be of interest to our members and readers. The words are mine but the document may be one that others have also received. Maybe they will recognize it and have fond or sad recollections because of it.

There are many stories I want to hear or read. The earning of the Combat Infantry Badge should bring many stories to mind. I do not look for blood and guts tales—but I enjoy the tales of the life lived while the guys were doing their job and duty.

It seems urgent that the Old Guard tell us those stories. Stories that only they can tell. Stories that will not be noted as the Old Guard fades away.

Sincerely,

Everett Arnold
Headquaters Company, 132 Infantry Reg.
I & R Platoon

NATIONAL ORDER OF BATTLEFIELD COMMISSIONS

The National Order of Battlefield Commissions is trying to locate all men, WW II, Korea, and Vietnam, who, on the field of battle against and armed enemy received a commission from enlisted or Warrant status. It may you or someone you know.

Contact:
John C. Angier III
67 Ocean Drive
St. Augustine, FL 32084-7451
Tel. 904-471-7695

164 INFANTRY
Do You Know This Man?

I am looking for anyone who served with JOHN LUGAS, my Grandfather. He recently passed away. He joined the 164 Infantry in late 1944 and saw action on Leyte and Cebu, winning a Bronze Star.

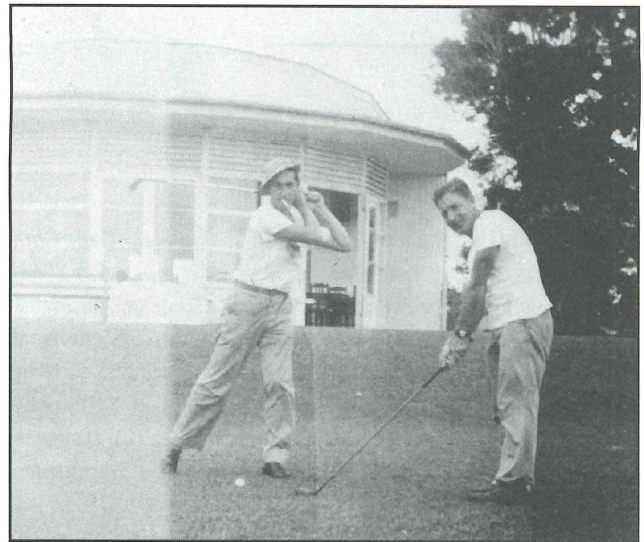
Please contact:
Gerald J. Nuglio
5350 S Mayfield
Chicago, IL 60638



Old Guard
164th Officer New Caledonia, 1942. (L-R) Haynes, Lt. Col. (Medics); Art Timbe, Lt. Col. 2nd Bn (Devils Lake); Raymond Zelvor, Major (Reg. S-4); Sam Baglien, Lt. Col. (Regmt. Ex. Officer, Hillsboro, ND); H. Flannery, Capt. (Medical Lt.); Ferguson, Lt. Col. (Medical Officer).

Hate is an attack on our communities' health and in the face of hate, silence is deadly. Hate is a four-letter word that pollutes minds and divides neighborhoods and communities. Combat the forces of hate with good action.

— Anonymous



Playing golf at Fiji Island Club, 1943. Walter Ensminger, Corporal 3rd Bn Hqds Co. (Manago, ND now at Grants Pass, Oregon), Willis Sewall, E Company St. Louis Park, MN. These two guys certainly could use coaching from Tiger Woods or maybe serve as caddies. The Fiji Club had a good supply of liquid refreshments served at certain hours.

MILESTONE

Gannett News Service

Fission's discovery led to atomic bomb

The atomic bomb, which ended the war in the Pacific in 1945, wouldn't have been possible without the discovery of nuclear fission seven years earlier by German chemists Otto Hahn and Fritz Strassmann. Fission entails the splitting of the atomic nucleus during which awe-



some amounts of energy are released. Fission occurs when a neutral particle called a neutron strikes the nucleus of an unstable atom and causes it to break apart, releasing energy and more neutrons. In 1942, Italian-born physicist Enrico Fermi led a team that induced the first controlled, self-sustaining fission reaction, at the University of Chicago. The process was harnessed into the atomic bomb by a huge team of physicists, chemists and engineers in the Manhattan Project.

AWOL MEMBERS

The following individuals are delinquent in payment of their dues for the year 2000. They will be suspended from receiving the newsletter after this edition. In accordance with the by-laws you will be dropped from the rolls after two years for failure to pay your dues. Prompt payments of dues will assure you of receiving the 164th Infantry News.

Ben Kemp
Sec./Treas.

Alma Anderson	Minot, ND	Kenneth E. Hiltner	Williston, ND
John P. Booher	Santa Monica, CA	Margaret Jennings	Bismarck, ND
EJ Brennan	Lees Summit, MO	Joan Jurgens	Medora, ND
Lillard K. Brown	Wilder, KY	S.J. Klava	Kinsey, AL
Leroy Bushing	Wahpeton, ND	Dennis W. Larson	Devils Lake, ND
Francis Byrn	Scottsville, KY	Herbert Lauth	Eden Prairie, MN
Leroy C. Decker	Rio Rancho, NM	Shirley J. Olgeirson	Bismarck, ND
George H. Dingley	Indianapolis, IN	Allan James Olson	Elbridge, NY
Lloyd Erfle	Minneapolis, MN	Sylvia L. Rettig	Leipsic, OH
Grace Erickson	Hatton, ND	Donald L. Sauer	Columbus, OH
Emrys H. Evans	Mountain Home, ID	Lucille Sevigny	Lengby, MN
Vince A. Ferrigo	Los Altos, CA	Richard L. Spaulding	Minot, ND
Orlando Giallonardo	Natick, MA	Phalen J. Vig	Williston, ND
Alan M. Goodroe	Plano, TX	Bryan K. Webb	Williston, ND
Raymond A. Griffin	Wyndmere, ND	Reuben H. Zeller	Carson, ND

Legislation for Veterans

As President of the 164th Infantry Association I ask for your support for legislation introduced by Senator Kent Conrad (D. ND). The legislation is S.2007 and was introduced January 26, 2000 in the United States Senate.

The intent of S.2007 is to improve the procedures (actually to speed up) relating to scheduling appointments for non-emergency service connected disabilities. The proposed legislation will require that if a request for services is more than 3 weeks later than the date requested than an immediate review will be made and if the Veterans medical facility cannot provide the requested medical service the veteran will be provided service through a non-department medical specialist in the area in which the veteran resides. Passage of this legislation will certainly benefit the veterans in need of medical assistance.

Please contact your respective US Senators and indicate your support and ask them to support S.2007.


Thanks

Alvin Tollefsrud

President

He who cannot forgive others breaks the bridge over which he himself must pass if he would ever reach heaven; for everyone has a need to be forgiven.

— Herbert



1883 1955

164th INFANTRY ASSOCIATION
OF THE UNITED STATES

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is a pleasure to report to the membership the response to the request for financial support for the continuing publication of the 164th Infantry News.

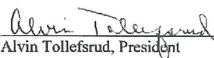
Six hundred forty-two letters were mailed. Three hundred twenty-two members responded with donations ranging from \$1,000.00, \$250.00 to \$10.00 As of this date of this issue, \$13,759 has been received.

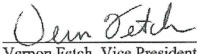
Four letters of constructive criticism were received and three are published in this issue. The majority of letters from members strongly support the present policy of publishing quarterly with color. Over 50 percent of the members indicated they desire to continue the status quo of the 164th News. The list of donors follows this report and when additional donations are received they will be published in the next issue of the News.


Your response when called upon for support reflects the spirit of the 164th.


Vice President Vern Fetch, Secretary/Treasurer Ben Kemp, and Editor Jim Fenelon join with me in thanking you for your generous support.

JESUIS PRET


 Alvin Tollefsrud, President


 Vern Fetch, Vice President


 Ben Kemp, Secretary/Treasurer


 Jim Fenelon, Editor

Comments on Donations to 164th News

Dear 164th Inf. News Leaders,

The Assn. will live on beyond the actual lives of its membership. The newsletter had provided a special detailed history that otherwise would have been lost forever.

Thanks to all of you that have served and worked so hard in this endeavor.

Best wishes to all this Christmas season and into the new century.

Bob Alin

867 Oak St.

West Fargo, ND 58078

P.S. Glad to help out, always look forward to your newsletter.

William A. Byers

1st Lt. "E" Co.

12118 Greencastle Pike

Hagerstown, MD 21740

At 80 years old I don't buy green bananas and I eat my desserts first. Good luck with your appeal.

Ernest Aufero

101 Spring Lake Dr. #206

Vero Beach, FL 32962

I will try to pay \$20.00 a month for cover 3 years.

Clarence O. Blecha

4582 Belmont Road

Grand Forks, ND 58201

Lets try to keep the paper going – it is all we have.

John Alme

2874 Lynae Way

Hemet, CA 92545

Contributions

1. Sent request letter to 642 Members
2. Received money from 322 Members (over 50%)
3. Received

\$1,000.00	1	Member
\$250.00	1	Member
\$164.00	1	Member
\$100.00	57	Members
\$60.00	41	Members
\$50.00	2	Members
\$40.00	1	Member
\$35.00	1	Member
\$30.00	3	Members
\$25.00	2	Members
\$20.00	210	Members
\$15.00	3	Members
\$10.00	9	Members

TOTAL: \$14,224.00 (to date)

The following individuals have made contributions to the 164th Newsletter.

(* Associate Member)

Amount	Name	City/State
\$1,000.00	Mark Lief Eriksson*	Sauk Rapids, MN
\$ 250.00	Donald K. Van Slyke	Saint Paul, MN
\$164.00	Eric F. Engbrecht	Hobbs, NM
\$100.00	Robert J. Alin	West Fargo, ND
\$100.00	Arthur K. Amos	San Antonio, TX
\$100.00	William F. Babbe	Danville, IL
\$100.00	Charles T. Bell	Newport Beach, CA
\$100.00	Emil I. Blomstrann	New Britain, CT
\$100.00	Robert M. Carr	Oakland, CA
\$100.00	Robert H. Carter	Valley City, ND
\$100.00	Lorraine Cecil*	Bemidji, MN
\$100.00	Earl "Red" Cherrey	Fairview, Mt
\$100.00	Raymond D. Conlon	Minto, ND
\$100.00	Marjorie Dobervich*	Devils Lake, ND
\$100.00	Harry Dolyniuk	Thomson, GA
\$100.00	Carl E. Doversberger	Portland, GA
\$100.00	W. Mark Durley Jr.	Fresno, CA
\$100.00	Elmer F. Eilers	Paris, TN
\$100.00	Philip Roy Engstrom	Moorhead, MN
\$100.00	James M. Fenelon	Marshalltown, IA
\$100.00	Vernon F. Fetch	Bismarck, ND
\$100.00	Charlotte J. Flexhaug*	Williston, ND
\$100.00	Ralph L. Gaugler	Bismarck, ND
\$100.00	Elroy O. Greuel	Casselton, ND

\$100.00	John E. Gunderson	Vancouver, WA	\$60.00	Edward Gaik	Chicago, IL
\$100.00	Gilbert F. Hammargren	North Branch, MN	\$60.00	Lewis Goodman	San Diego, CA
\$100.00	John R. Holt	Brooklyn, NY	\$60.00	Joe Gummeringer	Las Cruces, NM
\$100.00	Anton A. Hannel	San Carlos, CA	\$60.00	Benny J. Haman*	Williston, ND
\$100.00	Don Jacobson	Wenatchee, WA	\$60.00	Maurice A. Hannum	Powell, WY
\$100.00	Dr. Zack A. Johnson	Salmon, ID	\$60.00	William C. Hanson	Bullhead City, AZ
\$100.00	Earl H. Johnson	Grand Coulee, WA	\$60.00	Dan Hobot*	Brooklyn Park, MN
\$100.00	Bennet J. Kemp	Bismarck, ND	\$60.00	Zane Jacobs	Seaside, CA
\$100.00	Clayton Kingston	Union, WA	\$60.00	Hamlin L. Kjelland	Gig Harbor, WA
\$100.00	Julean L. Lee	Fargo, ND	\$60.00	Howard Lauter	Milford, NJ
\$100.00	John N. Livingstone	Puyallup, WA	\$60.00	Dr. Neil A. Macdonald	Valley City, ND
\$100.00	Leslie H. Loberg	West Fargo, ND	\$60.00	Adam J. Miltenberger	Carson City, NV
\$100.00	Jerry Longmuir	Menoken, ND	\$60.00	Herbert F. Mutschler	Bellevue, WA
\$100.00	Lowell W. Lundberg	Fargo, ND	\$60.00	William A. Parker	Elcajon, CA
\$100.00	Dr. David S. Marshall	Pottsville, PA	\$60.00	Alice Rott*	Fargo, ND
\$100.00	William Mazzeo	Williamsburg, VA	\$60.00	Omer Carroll Rudrud	Bedford, VA
\$100.00	K. M. McLaughlin	Fargo, ND	\$60.00	Robert A. Steinberg	Vero Beach, FL
\$100.00	James R. McLaughlin	Fargo, ND	\$60.00	John T. Simmons	Glendale, CA
\$100.00	Robert Melville	Thousand Palms, CA	\$60.00	Theodore A. Steinberg	Prescott Valley, AZ
\$100.00	Lyle F. Mollet	Mesa, AZ	\$60.00	Richard R. Stevens	Louisville, KY
\$100.00	Horace F. Nearhood	Toledo, OH	\$60.00	Joseph T. Tix	Champlin, MN
\$100.00	Clarice Nordhousen*	Fargo, ND	\$60.00	William P. Welander	Mount Hood Parkdale, OR
\$100.00	Stanley Oshaben	Willoughby, OH	\$60.00	Donald W. Well	Tehachapi, CA
\$100.00	Gordon Otteson	Bismarck, ND	\$60.00	L. G. Wichmann	Minneapolis, MN
\$100.00	Stanley T. Pfau	Sacramento, CA	\$60.00	Albert F. Wiest	Olympia, WA
\$100.00	Norman Samson	Vista, CA	\$60.00	Donald L. Wirtz	Detroit Lakes, MN
\$100.00	Milton C. Shedd	Newport Beach, CA	\$60.00	Lawrence C. Wittmer	Blair, OK
\$100.00	Ted N. Steckler	Tustin, CA	\$50.00	William A. Byers	Hagerstown, MD
\$100.00	Don Stevens	Watford City, ND	\$50.00	Edward M. Fox	Dallas, TX
\$100.00	Charlene M. Tittsworth*	Mills City, MT	\$40.00	George R. Hamer	Melbourne, FL
\$100.00	Alvin Tollefsrud	Mayville, ND	\$35.00	John A. Benzinger	Bismarck, ND
\$100.00	Edith Tuff*	Bismarck, ND	\$30.00	Orville N. Dodge	Las Vegas, NV
\$100.00	Allen E. Westmark	Bellevue, WA	\$30.00	Gerald R. Maurseth	Cando, ND
\$100.00	Wendell W. Wichmann	Cockeysville, MD	\$30.00	Dwight Petty	Spokane, WA
\$100.00	Herman D. Wildermuth	Hacienda Heights, CA	\$25.00	John A. Fischbach	Saint Paul, MN
\$100.00	James H. Winter	Bowie, TX	\$25.00	Otto E. Heath	Anaheim, CA
\$60.00	James Aipperspach	Jamestown, ND	\$20.00	Harold P. Aarhus	Concord, CA
\$60.00	John N. Alme	Hemet, CA	\$20.00	Lloyd Anderson	Wapato, WA
\$60.00	Vernon W. Bogner	Portland, OR	\$20.00	Betty Anderson*	West Fargo, ND
\$60.00	Warren O. Brodie	Titusville, FL	\$20.00	William Anundson	Lacey, WA
\$60.00	Finley K. Clarke	Smyrna Mills, ME	\$20.00	Raymond C. Arneson	Boulder City, NV
\$60.00	Tomy Clausen	Williston, ND	\$20.00	Victor Athias	Mill Valley, CA
\$60.00	Bert Coffey	Monterey, CA	\$20.00	Ernest F. Aufero	Methuen, WA
\$60.00	Paul E. Dickerson	Canton, OH	\$20.00	Luella Avens*	Billings, MT
\$60.00	Paul Dowhaniuk	Portland, OR	\$20.00	Bryan O. Baldwin	Grand Forks, ND
\$60.00	Melvin Eidum	Covina, CA	\$20.00	John R. Barbero	Tolland, CT
\$60.00	Dr. Raymond Ellerman	Las Vegas, NV	\$20.00	Lewis Baumann	Fenton, MO
\$60.00	William H. Falk*	Arlington, VA	\$20.00	James R. Beaton	Pelican Rapids, MN
\$60.00	Paul F. Fischer	Dickinson, ND	\$20.00	Martin H. Beilke	Weslaco, TX
\$60.00	Robert L. Ford	Brea, CA	\$20.00	Lyle W. Bethke	Kulm, ND

\$20.00	Joseph H. Blissenbach	Woodburn, OR	\$20.00	Dr. John W. Goven	Valley City, ND
\$20.00	Lawrence E. Boisen	Post Falls, ID	\$20.00	Paul T. Gray	Laguna Woods, CA
\$20.00	Merwin E. Bokelmann	Glendale, AZ	\$20.00	Laverne Greenacre	Fremont, CA
\$20.00	Melvin P. Bork	Moorhead, MN	\$20.00	William J. Hagen	Moorhead, MN
\$20.00	Lewis A. Borsheim	Fargo, ND	\$20.00	Arthur W. Hanley	Mount Vernon, WA
\$20.00	Gordon E. Bostrom	Augusta, GA	\$20.00	Ewald Heisler	Bismarck, ND
\$20.00	Robert E. Boyd	Opting, WA	\$20.00	Gregory Heinz	Bismarck, ND
\$20.00	Howard N. Brenan	Gilroy, CA	\$20.00	Arthur C. Hess	Saint Louis, MO
\$20.00	Vernon H. Buck	Emporia, KS	\$20.00	Eugene A. Hill	Grand Forks, ND
\$20.00	Harry W. Burd	Tucson, AZ	\$20.00	Don L. Hoffman	Jamestown, ND
\$20.00	Carmen Burgad*	Napoleon, ND	\$20.00	Maynard F. Holmes	Carson, WA
\$ 20.00	Eugene L. Burns	Grafton, ND	\$20.00	Arvid Honsvall	Minneapolis, MN
\$20.00	Robert E. Burns	Castle Rock, WA	\$20.00	Harley Horken	Fargo, ND
\$20.00	Douglas P. Burtell	Bowman, ND	\$20.00	Jack E. Ikel	Hawley, MN
\$20.00	Ernest L. Cashion	Prairie Grove, AR	\$20.00	Geo W. Isenberg	Las Vegas, NV
\$20.00	Stephen A. Chemistruck	Albuquerque, NM	\$20.00	Donald H. Jackson	Bend, OR
\$20.00	Willis G. Clark	Dickinson, ND	\$20.00	Dennis Jensen	Bismarck, ND
\$20.00	John Clarys	Menoken, ND	\$20.00	James A. Johnson	Fargo, ND
\$20.00	Len A. Clemens	Spokane, WA	\$20.00	William H. Johnson	Jamestown, ND
\$20.00	Edward Collins	Pleasanton, CA	\$20.00	Waldemar C. Johnson	Fargo, ND
\$20.00	Joe Cuellar	Corrales, NM	\$20.00	Julian O. Jore	Las Vegas, NV
\$20.00	James P. Curran	Worcester, MA	\$20.00	Noma M. Kane*	Tucson, AZ
\$20.00	Frances E. Dahl	Sidney, MT	\$ 20.00	John C. Keller	Harvey, ND
\$20.00	Wm H. Dailey	Hayesville, NC	\$20.00	Elroy E. Kessler	Kingsburg, CA
\$20.00	Ronald A. Davis	Seattle, WA	\$20.00	Paul J. Kessler	Cando, ND
\$20.00	Frank Dempsey	Cicero, IL	\$20.00	Kenneth F. Keyes	Marshall, MI
\$20.00	Aurel Desautel	Grafton, ND	\$20.00	Edwin J. Kjelstrom	Rugby, ND
\$20.00	Joseph F. Dest	Hamden, CT	\$20.00	Dorothy Kjera*	Maxbass ND
\$20.00	Lawrence F. Drabus	Kenmare, ND	\$20.00	Albert C. Kleinhuizen	Battle Creek, MI
\$20.00	Paul Ebeltoft	Dickinson, ND	\$20.00	Edward J. Kline	Grand Island, NE
\$20.00	Harold J. Eberle	Port Angeles, WA	\$20.00	Gordon Klipfel	Max, ND
\$20.00	Frank R. Eide	Bismarck, ND	\$20.00	Lynn M. Kloster	Mount Prospect, IL
\$20.00	W. E. Ensminger	Grants Pass, OR	\$20.00	Brenton Knudson	Petaluma, CA
\$20.00	Melba Evanson	Minneapolis, MN	\$20.00	Robert E. Korman	Anchorage, AK
\$20.00	Donald J. Evenson	Grand Fores, ND	\$20.00	Harold Krause	Carson, ND
\$20.00	Joel Fedje	Hoople, ND	\$20.00	Bernard B. Krisko	Belle Vernon, Pa
\$20.00	Dennis R. Ferik	Santafe, NM	\$20.00	John A. Kurtz	Havre, MT
\$20.00	Thomas J. Fischer	Moorhead, MN	\$20.00	Richard La Berge	Grafton, ND
\$20.00	Deloras K. Foss*	Crookston, MN	\$20.00	John A. Landowski	Grand Forks, ND
\$20.00	William Friedewald	Saint Louis, MO	\$20.00	James Lebus	Fargo, ND
\$20.00	Roy Fries	Warren, MI	\$20.00	Stanley Lee	Seattle, WA
\$20.00	Sheldon Frost	Bakersfield, CA	\$20.00	C. J. Livingood	Grafton, ND
\$20.00	Roger B. Fuller	Middleport, NY	\$20.00	Paul H. Longaberger	Williamstown, WV
\$20.00	Stanley Gadowski	Oxon Hill, MD	\$20.00	Ken Lystad	Stanley, ND
\$20.00	Lionel Garant	Fall River, MA	\$20.00	Albert Martin	Kief, ND
\$20.00	Jerome D. Gazler	Chicago, IL	\$20.00	Marvin Mauch	Benson, MN
\$20.00	Byron Gilbertson	Killdeer, ND	\$20.00	H. O. McAdow	Atchison, KS
\$20.00	Lloyd L. Gillespie	Grafton, ND	\$20.00	Neyl McClure	Bismarck, ND
\$20.00	Lorraine M. Gislason*	Tucson, AZ	\$20.00	Richard L. McLaughlin	Mandan, ND
\$20.00	Wallace, Gjesvold	Wildrose, ND	\$20.00	MG La Clair A. Melhouse*	Bismarck, ND
\$20.00	Ben Glatt	Bismarck, ND	\$20.00	John J. Miller	Seaside, OR
\$20.00	Howard Goddard	San Diego, CA	\$20.00	Mary Ann Miller*	Bismarck, ND
			\$20.00	Bernard T. Minnehan	Lewiston, ID

\$20.00	Ed Mulligan	Detroit Lakes, MN	\$20.00	Raymond J. Sinkbeil	Medicine Lodge, KS
\$20.00	MG C. Emerson Murry*	Bismarck, ND	\$20.00	Betty Skar*	Fargo, ND
\$20.00	William L. Nelker	Eau Claire, WI	\$20.00	Clarence Slais	Williston, ND
\$20.00	Mrs. Arthur J. Nix*	Moorhead, MN	\$20.00	Leroy E. Smith	Hot Springs National Park, AR
\$20.00	Joe O'Day	San Diego, CA	\$20.00	Gordon St Claire	Detroit Lakes, MN
\$20.00	Ralph H. Oehlke	Kathryn, ND	\$20.00	Raymond H. Steffen	Grand Forks, ND
\$20.00	Merrit Ogren	Edgeley, ND	\$20.00	Gordon C. Steinweg	Maple Grove, MNS
\$20.00	Albert Olenberger	Rapid City, SD	\$20.00	Doris Stellon*	Drayton, ND
\$20.00	Elmo R. Olson	Finley, ND	\$20.00	Orlyen O. Stensgard	Fargo, ND
\$20.00	Karen A. Olson*	Oklahoma City, OK	\$20.00	Margret Stout*	Dillon, MT
\$20.00	Donna M. Opat*	Spring, TX	\$20.00	Richard E. Stowell	Denver, CO
\$20.00	Nicholas Ostapchuk	Rochester, NY	\$20.00	John L. Strauss	Lisbon, ND
\$20.00	D. D. Oster	Mesa, AZ	\$20.00	Anton J. Sturn	Vallejo, CA
\$20.00	Cliff Ottinger	Corvallis, MT	\$20.00	Hilbert Swanson	Mesa, AZ
\$20.00	Edward C. Otto	Willmar, MN	\$20.00	Erwin W. Swapp	Detroit Lakes, MN
\$20.00	Col Lauren M. Overby	Marker Heights, TX	\$20.00	Genevieve Swenson*	Grand Forks, ND
\$20.00	James Parmeter	Westminster, CA	\$20.00	Neil A. Tennyson	Northridge, CA
\$20.00	Raymond Patton	Bismarck, ND	\$20.00	Arvid Thompson	Saint Paul, MN
\$20.00	John Paulson	Carrington, ND	\$20.00	Robert Todd	Puyallup, WA
\$20.00	William Pautzke	Minot, ND	\$20.00	Clair Tongen	Cavalier, ND
\$20.00	Art Pepple	Fessenden, ND	\$20.00	Mrs. V. L. Towne*	Bismarck, ND
\$20.00	Lenard Pfarr	Circle Pines, MN	\$20.00	Andrew Trageser	New Park, PA
\$20.00	Mitchell Pillarick	Florissant, MO	\$20.00	Walter Trengen	Bottineau, ND
\$20.00	Joe Poleschook	Max, ND	\$20.00	Reginald G. Urness	Grand Forks, ND
\$20.00	Raymond R. Porter	East Springfield, Pa	\$20.00	Harry R. Vadnie	Bismarck, ND
\$20.00	Vince R. Powers	Hamilton, MT	\$20.00	Warren Ventsch	Valley City, ND
\$20.00	Edna Rahn*	Hazen, ND	\$20.00	Karl H. Von Halle	Davie, FL
\$20.00	James A. Rains	Buffalo, NY	\$20.00	Gerald Waldhauser	South Saint Paul, MN
\$20.00	Wendelin Reiger	Devils Lake, ND	\$20.00	Charles H. Walker	Pembina, ND
\$20.00	R. J. Remillong	Winter Garden, FL	\$20.00	Owen C. Wallace	Fessenden, ND
\$20.00	Ervin H. Remmers	Orange, CA	\$20.00	Buriel F. Watkins	Aurora, MO
\$20.00	John Revers	Omaha, NE	\$20.00	Lawrence D. Webb	Williston, ND
\$20.00	Harold E. Risser	Park City, MT	\$20.00	Clifford J. Weber	Lisbon, ND
\$20.00	Walter Rivinius	Moorhead, MN	\$20.00	Lloyd A. Weber	North Hollywood, CA
\$20.00	Wesley A. Rockne	Saint Paul, MN	\$20.00	Donna Weidenbach*	Madison, MN
\$20.00	Ralph R. Rothrock	Seal Beach, CA	\$20.00	Frank Weisgerber	Bismarck, ND
\$20.00	Theo K. Rustad	Atkins, AR	\$20.00	Carl Whitman	Chilmark, ND
\$20.00	Dr. John & Maryann Sagehorn *	Wayzata, MN	\$20.00	John R. Wozniak	Winter Park, FL
\$20.00	Richard A. Salsman	Fargo, ND	\$20.00	Louis L. Yearke	Grand Forks, ND
\$20.00	John L. Samson	Cavalier, ND	\$20.00	John A. Yonker	Bismarck, ND
\$20.00	Gerald Sanderson	Willow City, ND	\$15.00	Vernet R. Anderson	Nisswa, MN
\$20.00	Eugene F. Sauer	Spokane, WA	\$15.00	Robert Dodd	Inver Grove Heights, MN
\$20.00	Ray L. Sawyer	Minneapolis, MN	\$15.00	Thomas H. Vettel	Cumming, ND
\$20.00	Ray Scharnowske	Detroit Lakes, MN	\$10.00	Jesuse Avila	Long Beach, CA
\$20.00	Bernard A. Scheer	Hutchinson, MN	\$10.00	James C. Buckle	Harwich, MA
\$20.00	Clarence G. Schultz	Mesa, AZ	\$10.00	Erling A. Dahl	Hettinger, ND
\$20.00	Marie Seas*	Mesa, AZ	\$10.00	Paul T. Gray	Laguana Woods, CA
\$20.00	Oliver M. Settingsgard	Simi Valley, CA	\$10.00	Ardis Mathews	Fairmount, MN
\$20.00	Willis Sewall	Minneapolis, MN	\$10.00	Malcolm J. McKay	East Helena, MT
\$20.00	Mel Shirley	Fresno, CA	\$10.00	Walter J. Mellem	Grand Forks, ND
\$20.00	Fredrick P. Siems	Sierra Vista, AZ	\$10.00	Valentine A. Roll	Troutdale, OK
\$20.00	Edgar A. Sinkbeil	Colfax, WA	\$10.00	Paulette R. Wagner	Havre, MT

Chaplain Franko Presentation to 164th Infantry Association 54th Annual Reunion Memorial Service

Standing at the mouth of the Hudson River in New York harbor, Lady Liberty lifts her torch to the sky. She is beckoning to the world with these familiar words of welcome: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to be free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shores, send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me; I lift my torch beside the golden door."

For most of us the power in these words reach back to our immigrant ancestors who came to America believing that these words were meant for them. America offered them the "golden door" of opportunity. An opportunity to build a life for themselves. A chance to be something they could never be because of the station they were born into in the Old country. America was the answer to their yearning to be free and the statue of Liberty symbolized the fulfillment of their hopes and dreams.

Maybe one of the reasons why so many of us still flock to see the Statue of Liberty and read her words is because we are still looking for her truth to be felt in our own lives. Maybe, even though we live in the greatest and freest land the world has ever known, we still feel like the tired, the poor, the huddled masses yearning to be free. Maybe we are still waiting with our ancestors, standing before "the golden door" with all that we have and all that we are strapped to our backs, hoping that one day our lives will be happier and freer than they are now.

Don't get me wrong, I know we in America have so much to be thankful for. But I also sense how fragile this land of liberty is that we have made for ourselves. We build bigger and bigger houses yet long for home. We add more and more timesaving conveniences to our lives yet they don't relieve the feeling of being "tempest tossed." We spend and spend to solve our social ills yet the "wretched refuse" around us only seems to multiply all the faster. I sense that the qualities and the character that Lady Liberty stands for is only a thin veneer a virtue over a land decaying from the inside out.

In the Apostles Creed "We say, "He descended into hell." Those are monumental words that fall monotonously from our lips every week. We have said it so many times that we don't even think about what they mean any more. And yet these words describe more accurately than we will ever know the situation of our lives. Because,

more than anything else hell is wherever there are dreams of freedom being shackled by indifference. Hell is where there is a hope for a much fuller life being suffocated by doubt and despair. Hell is wherever the light of peace is being overshadowed by the gloom of fear and hatred.

And yet it is because Christ descends into hell and is always descending into hell that we have come to know him as the liberator, the emancipator, the savior of the world. He is himself the "golden door." Not Lady Liberty, not American, not anything of our own making - but Jesus, Jesus is the "golden door". He is the "golden door" to home before which we stand "homeless." He is the "golden door" to peace before which we stand "tempest-tossed." He is the "golden door" of righteousness before which we stand as "wretched refuse."

"Come to me," is what he says to those who seek the liberation of their souls. "Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and you will find rest for your souls."

We are to come to him, even though the world calls us in a hundred different directions. We are to come to him and live for him under the holy yoke of freedom he places upon our shoulders. Under the burden of love we are to risk life for him, make peace for him, work miracles for him, and speak words of forgiveness for him.

And he will give us rest, (A very curious kind of rest, to be sure, but rest nonetheless.). The rest he will give won't let us escape from the world - from reality. Instead, it is a rest that allows us to see the world for the inherent beauty and goodness God has breathed into its very essence. It is a rest that loves because God has first and unconditionally loved us. Amen.

Forty candles were lighted following Chaplain Franko's presentation and the solemn service was conducted by the reading of 41 names of 164th men that have answered the Last Roll Call. As each name was read by James Fenelon, Bernie Wagner tolled the bell and W. Gagnon extinguished the candles flame. Taps were sounded and all present had their own memories of all departed 164th men

To Whom It May Concern:

I read your most recent monthly issue which featured an article about a captain who looked after his men. It reminded me of the days in 'Nam. During this time I served as a machine gunner in Charley Co., 2-8 Cav., 1967.

I was in Bong Son Providence and we had just made heavy contact with the N.V.A. and Viet Cong. While in Dak To and Bong Song Valley, we lost three company commanders. In a forty-five day period, each and everytime COL Stannard, our Brigade Commander, would sacrifice his life and take over Charley Company at the risk of his life. On one occasion, he led - carrying a flash light - a group of men out into the swamp looking for wounded and dead G.I.'s. We were caught in an ambush, yet COL Stannard continued with the operation. I had the honor of covering him with gun fire. I kept wondering how this old man - a man who fought in WWII, Guadalcanal, Korea and VietNam - remained committed. Love of his country and the men who served under him kept echoing in my mind.

I want to thank COL Stannard! He was one "hell of an officer". I shall never forget the "soldier of soldiers," COL Stannard represented to me then and to this day...

Sgt. Tom Park
Co. C 2-8 Cav. Inf.
1435 Santa Cruz
Modesto, CA 95354

(Information from Saber publication)

See next page for continuation...

(Letter to Mrs. Stannard from Gerald B. Saylor. Saylor served under Stannard in Vietnam 1967-1968.)

I know there are many more like Tom Park and myself in this great country who remember your husbands concern for his troops. We are better for his troops. We are better citizens for having known him. I hope my letter finds you in good health.

Sincerely

Gerarld Saylor

5683 Green Oak Street
Fairfield, OH 45014-3590

It's seldom that I talk with anyone that knew John. He was a real hero. And, I miss him so very much.

Enclosed is the article I mentioned. You asked for a copy. A couple of other items that you might like to have.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Stay well!

Fondly,

Llewellyn Fowler Stannard

1770 Hickory Trace

Gallatin, TN 37066

5 December 1999

Dear Jim

Thanks for your telephone call. I enjoyed talking with you.

JAP MACHINE GUNNER HAS JOINED HONORABLE ANCESTORS, WHILE SERGEANT STANNARD HAS GONE TO WEST POINT

Although not yet 21, Staff Sergeant John E. Stannard has been wounded at Guadalcanal, in hospital, and has rejoined his infantry regiment. In the course of this he was awarded the Purple Heart and an appointment to West Point. He was wounded about November 13th.

The point of this letter, which Sergeant Stannard modestly fails to bring out, is that he deliberately walked into the machine-gun nest in order to draw its fire so that it could be located and destroyed. It was.

Sergeant Sannard's home is at Williston, North Dakota, and he writes to his mother, Mrs. John Stannard there. The Jim, Tom and Gladys mentioned are his younger brothers and sisters.

At the last minute before going to press comes the welcome news that Sergeant Stannard is now at West Point wearing a curious wrist watch. "It's a pretty good watch," he said; "the Jap was wearing it."

American Red Cross

General Hospital 142

(Editor's note: John Stannard E Company 164th was wounded in the Koli Point Operation, Guadalcanal. Stannard in his military career earned the Coveted Combat Infantry Badge with 3 stars. Guadalcanal, Korea, Vietnam. Stannard retired from the Army as one star General.)

DEAR MOM AND ALL: I hope you got my letter, Mom, but in case you didn't, I will repeat a few things I mentioned in it. I am here at the hospital, but I am about O.K. again. I walked too close to a Jap with a light machine-gun, and he seemed to take a very distinct disliking to me. In fact he shot at me. He was a lousy shot though, and from the extreme range of 25 yds., all he did was skin up my neck, shoot me through the face, and make me damn mad. The face wound was sort of a freak. The bullet entered my right cheek, went just behind my nose, and came out just under my left eye. The Docs can't figure it out. It was very lucky they say. All it did was slightly fracture some bone in my face. My face was swollen up for a while, but it is nearly normal again now. I have a couple of small scars, but then I never did rival Robert Taylor for looks anyhow. When I got here, one of the Docs asked me if I was sure I got shot. "Well, Doc," I said, "it might have been a mosquito, but then if it had been, he might have really hurt me." Funny thing, it didn't even knock me out, and I have walked around every day since I got hit. The Jap wasn't so lucky though, and he has now joined his honorable ancestors. I hope they give him the job of jabbing Tojo with a pitchfork when he gets down there. Well, he's happy anyhow. He always did want to die for the Emperor.

The Red Cross is doing a swell job here. They give us magazines, books, toilet articles, and I guess they will even lend money to service men. I hope everyone at home is fine. I would sure like to see all of you. If I stay away much longer, Jim, Tom and Gladys won't know me anymore. Tell all my friends hello for me. Give my love to all the folks. Try not to worry about me too much, Mom. I'll always do my best, and everything will come all right. Right now I'm in the pink.

Lots of love to all,

John

P.S. I am a Staff Sgt. now. Newly made, about Nov.1.

MY FIRST PLANE RIDE

To Jim Fenelon:

I was born May 7, 1924 and entered the army January 28, 1943, Wayne, Michigan. From the induction center I was sent to Camp House, Texas, placed in Company H, 343 Regiment, 86th Infantry Division (Black Hawk Division). I completed six weeks of basic training in Texas and Camp Livingston, Louisiana. After basic training, I was sent overseas April 19, 1943 on a troop transport, along with several hundred G.I.'s. We sailed from San Francisco. I do not recall the name of the troop ship we sailed on but it certainly was not a luxurious cruise ship.

In 1943, I joined A Company 164th Infantry on Bougainville as a Private First Class and assigned to a 30 caliber machine gun. Being assigned to A Company as a much needed replacement I had mixed feelings about joining an outfit that had been in several battles with the Japs. The guys in A Company were great and soon made me feel welcome. Great bunch of guys. From Bougainville, the 164th sailed to Leyte, Cebu, Negros in the Philippines.

After the war was over and I returned home, I learned that my two brothers were in the same area of the war that I was in, one brother, a sailor on a P.T. Boat and the other brother a Marine on Guadalcanal. We all had been wounded and each received the Purple Heart.

On May 8, 1945, 11 am, one day after my 21st birthday, I was wounded in action. A Jap sniper shot me in the right thigh. Captain George Christensen was also wounded, A Company Commander, was hit about the same time by shrapnel from Japanese grenades. We were carried about 4 miles on stretchers by Phillipinos to Dumagatie. The last two miles we were moved on stretchers on a jeep.

At Dumagatie, the medics put me in a wire basket type stretcher and strapped it under the right wing of a small airplane, it looked like a Piper Cub. Another small guy, a wounded G.I. was strapped under the left wing of the plane. Captain

Christensen and two other bigger guys were placed in the plane. The pilot took off flying about 25 feet over the water. This was my very first plane ride and most frightening in my life. Believe me I was very anxious when I would look over the side of the wire basket and see how close we were to the water. I think the flight lasted 30 or 40 minutes. I said my prayers and we landed safely. My wound healed and I was sent back to A Company in Cebu. The 164th sailed into Tokyo as part of the Army of Occupation.

I know the good Lord goes with me ever since being wounded, my first plane ride and returning safely home. I left Japan November 30, 1945. Landed at Portland, Oregon and was discharged December 5, 1945 in Chicago.

I have been lucky as I have never seen a doctor and never been in a hospital after I returned home. I retired from the Ford Motor Company in 1980 after 35 years of service. One of my jobs with the Ford Motor Company was inspecting B-24 Bomber, wing sections, they are a lot different than the wing of a Piper Cub.

Attending business meetings and 164th Infantry reunions, I fly but I will never forget my first airplane ride strapped in a wire stretcher under the wing of a Piper Cub.

See you at the Reunion in September, 2000 in Fargo.

JE SUIS PRET

Walter Hickey

A Company

P.O. Box 373

Hillard, FL 32046-0373

(Editor's note: Thanks for sharing your experience.)

Letter to the Editor

Jim,

Referring to May 1, 1999, Vol. 39 – 164th Newsletter, I verify the statement made by Vince R. Powers and his story about the 182nd. We found one of their 30 caliber air cooled machine guns they had tossed off the trail at the Point Cruz/Mantanikau area in the delicate situation in November/December, 1942, Guadalcanal. We, Hdqs 2nd Bn moved into their hurriedly vacated positions about 2 or 3 in the morning.

We, Lyle Wainsworth, Stahleker, Gil and Bob Olerud (brothers) and a few others, 2nd Bn communications had the MG for 3-6 weeks before an ordinance officer "spotted it" and quizzed us how we obtained it. Ordinance traced the serial number and found out it belonged to the 182nd Infantry which we knew all along. Vince, you were 100% right about the 182nd leaving their assigned positions on the line.

Raymond F. Sinkbeil

Hdqs. 2nd Bn Communications

815 Walnut Street

Medicine Lodge, KS 67104-1020

Additional identification of picture - Christmas Guadalcanal 1942 - Vol. 38, No. 7.

Left side of picture:

J. Lecker; Lyle Wainsworth; Bemis; H. Zumpf; Bob Olerud; Bob McPherson.

At the organ Lenny Pfiefer. All the people identified were Hdqs 2nd Bn Communications people. IDs from Ray Sinkbeil.

Lenny Pfiefer was a natural musician. He never took a music lesson in his life, but could play any song or tune. At the McDonald Bar in Suva, Fiji, Lenny played the piano until he had blisters on his fingers.

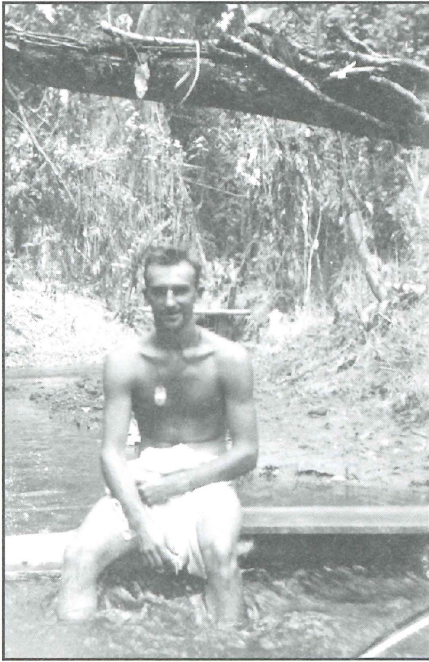
"Drinks" lined up on top of the piano from end to end and side to side, bought by admiring "dogfaces". He made (wrote) a tune for the Guadalcanal campaign that he called "The Fifty Caliber Stomp". What a guy. We all had a good time.

Ray Sinkbeil

New Caledonia

Lt. Col. R. McDonald, 2nd Bn Commander summoned me to his Hqds. tent on New Caledonia and told me about Japs sailing into the Coral Sea. McDonald volunteered me to go on a several days "Listening Jaunt" to see if I could pick up any information on radio or Morse Code from Japs fleet radio communication transmissions. This was in May 1942. "Bull Dog" McDonald personally sent me out on an isolated spit of land of the island that could only be reached at low tide. I was all alone armed with M1 rifle, radio equipment and canned "C" rations. I would wait until the tide went out then I walked to the spit of land set up the radio and listened for Jap Morse Code. No luck. When the tide changed I would walk back to the island. Very scary for a North Dakota land lubber. One day a sea gull was flying over my hide out, and I took a shot at it and believe it or not, down came the gull. Pure luck. I reported back to Lt. Colonel McDonald that I was unable to pick up any Jap radio communications.

Ray Sinkbeil
2nd Bn Hqs. Communications



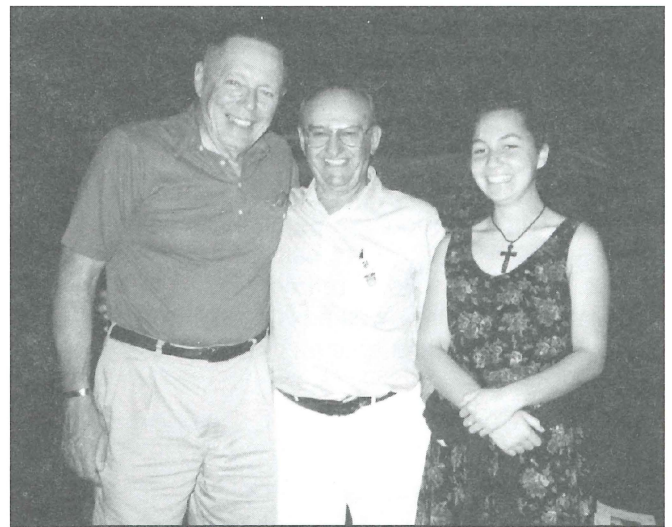
Bougainville, 1944. Ray Sinkbeil at a popular spa on Bougainville.



Returning from 10 day combat patrol on Bougainville, 1943. (Left to Right) Ray Sinkbeil-Hqds 2nd Bn, Ray Clark-from Minnesota, Jal Twitkoski-from Chicago.



Bougainville, 1944. Lenny Pfeifer, Lloyd Underdahl - Cando, North Dakota. We called him "House" because he was so big and a very fine fellow from Cando, North Dakota.



Guadalcanal, October, 1992. General McDonald, Ray Sinkbeil and the daughter of Dutch Ambassador, Guadalcanal. The happy trio were in the Mendana Hotel, Paint Cruz, Guadalcanal.

THE THIRD BATTALION AT THE MOUNTAIN

The Second Battalion had their glory at the mountain perhaps at the expense of the First and Third Battalions. At 0630 hours on 2 January 1943 the First and Third Battalions had launched their diversionary action. The artillery barrage started at 0600 hours. The Third Battalion poured mortar and machine gun fire into the jungle; valor this day was common. Company "I" on the left, met with heavy Japanese fire.

VALOR WAS COMMONPLACE

Pvt. Nathan Greese from "I" Company (see Fig. 9P) did his best to help his platoon grind out a short gain on Hill 31. Japanese machine gun fire pinned down his entire platoon. He crawled forward into the fire lane to attack and destroy the pillbox, killing the occupants. En route to the pillbox, Greese killed five Japanese with his Browning automatic rifle.

The First Battalion At The Mountain

The First Battalion advanced in column and immediately ran into stiff resistance at a point 200 yards south of Hill 31. A platoon led by Lt. Fred Kaps contained this force. The remainder of the First Battalion by-passed Lt. Kap's platoon and pushed ahead. The First Battalion had successfully brought their left flank against Hill 27. The next day the First Battalion extended their right flank as the Third Battalion extended their left flank. Both battalion flanks were "tied-in." The noose had been tightened on the Gifu. Lt. Col. Ripstra reinforced each rifle company with two platoons of .30 caliber and one platoon of .50 caliber machine guns.

The First Battalion lost 9 killed and 33 wounded before they were relieved from the Mount Austen area. Lt. Edward Brink, Jr. (see Fig. 8C) of Phoenix, AZ, was severely wounded, and eventually evacuated to New Zealand. Later he fought in Germany and was awarded the Silver Star. Still later, he received the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Silver Star. Brink retired as a colonel. On 28 December 1942 Brink was next to 1st/Sgt. Boyer when a single shot tore through the sergeant's heart.

PVT. EDWARD J. LICHOWSKI, DISTINGUISHED HERO

Although men of the First Battalion gained very little ground, they performed with exceptional valor. The men rose to meet the battle situation. They became greater than the individual they were as though a destiny was being created for them. For example, Pvt. Edward J.

Lichowski, a messenger and "body guard" to Capt. Tex Boudouine of "A" Company, during the attack at the mountain, by himself, and on his own initiative, left his safe position and three times braved enemy fire to recover each of three wounded men from "A" Company, and brought them back to safety. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (see Fig. 9-O).

On Bougainville at the Torokina River Delta on 30 January 1944 he was fatally wounded attempting to rescue another wounded American (see Fig. 10C). Sgt. Robert C. Muehrcke helped him to safety behind a tank. But he died in his arms as precious life-blood rapidly left his body. For this heroic act Pvt. Lichowski was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart posthumously.

Sgt. William Sacadat, a cook from Company "A" saw a "buddy" wounded in his thighs and chest. He ran forward through machine gun fire. He dragged, and then carried the wounded soldier to safety. For this act of valor, Sgt. Sacadat was awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

REGIMENTAL CASUALTIES

During the difficult Mount Austen Campaign the 132d Infantry lost 112 men killed in action and 268 wounded; three men were listed as missing. Malaria, dysentery and psychosis took an amount equal to those killed and wounded. The Japanese were believed to have lost at least 500 killed and at least as many more wounded. Although ill with dysentery, malaria, starvation and dehydration, the sick or wounded Japanese soldier had no alternative but to fight to their deaths.

STARVATION AMONG THE JAPANESE

During the Mount Austen battle the Japanese were desperate for food; some resorted to cannibalism for survival. At the mountain the Americans found evidence of cannibalism. Human flesh containing white skin and hairs were found in Japanese backpacks; American bodies were found stripped with large chunks of thighs and calf muscle removed. Captured Japanese diaries made reference to their severe hunger, lack of food and quest to eat "cemetery meat" for survival. Cannibalism was not a war crime. Disfigurement of bodies was punished by the Australian War Crime Trials.

THE GIFU REMAINS

During December 1942 except for the Mount Austen Campaign, not much fighting occurred on Guadalcanal.

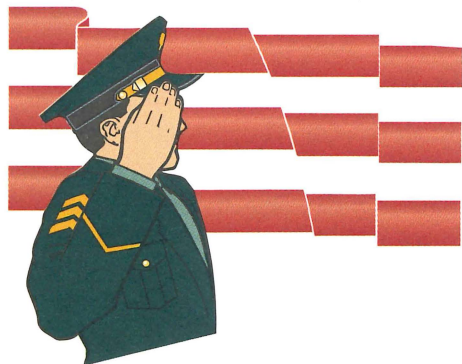
(Continued in the next Issue.)



Last Roll Call



Say a prayer for all our comrades for good health and some extra time as they have earned it...



Kermit Axvig

WWII
Concord, CA
26 January 2000

Robert D. Baker (LM)

WWII
Devils Lake, ND
3 February 2000
(Baker enlisted in the 37 mm Anti-Tank, Stokes Mortar (WWI equipment) in 1935 - Devils Lake, ND and continued serving in the Service Company - WWII.)

Rowland Bemis

Fargo, ND
4 January 2000

Harley Dalbey

WWII
Fordville, ND
20 January 2000

Mike Demianew

WWII
Salinas, CA
9 October 1999

Everitt Forde

WWII
Minneapolis, MN
November 1999

William W. Freeman (LM)

Simpsonville, SC
29 August 1999

James G. Gilbertson (LM)

Minneapolis, MN
22 August 1999

Elmo N. Hofferma

WWII
Missoula, MT
14 November 1999

Vance Presler

Korean War
Bismarck, ND
December 1999

Ernest A. Rodgers

Springfield, MO
17 November 1999

Donald K. Van Slyke

St. Paul, MN
20 January 2000

Jack C. Crull

Lubbock, TX
26 March 2000

Veterans Cemetery

Thanks 164th Infantry Association for the contribution to the ND Veterans Cemetery Foundation. The \$25.00 contribution brings the total to date to \$5,025.00.

Keith D. Bjerko
Major General, NDANG
The Adjutant General



Two old buddies from F Company looking over news stories about the 164th in WWII. Can anyone identify the happy guys at the reunion in Bismarck, September, 1999. Reunions and newsletters are the very core to keep.

A church is not a museum for saints — it's a hospital for sinners. Because a man is seated in the pew next to you at 10 o'clock on Sunday morning doesn't guarantee that he's 100 percent virtuous. It simply means he's usually more sober than one you'll meet in a bar at 10 o'clock on Saturday night.

— Abigail Van Buren

164th Regimental Flags & Pins

A limited number of 164th Regimental Flags and 164th Regimental Lapel Pins are available for sale.

164th Infantry Regimental Flags

(battle streamers WWII) 4 1/2 x 5 1/2 inches desk model.

\$20.00 Includes shipping.

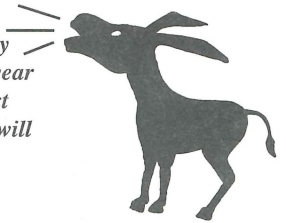
164th Infantry Lapel Pin.

\$5.00 includes shipping.

2000 DUES ARE DUE

Thirty association members have apparently misplaced the dues notice I mailed for the year 2000. Please send in your dues. In the next issue all members delinquent in their dues will be posted as A.W.O.L.

Ben Kemp
Sec/Treasurer



THE 164TH INFANTRY NEWS

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1998-99 Association Officers at
President Alvin Tollefsrud

Vice President Vern Fetch.

Sec./Treas. Ben Kemp.

Editor Jim Fenelon: (515) 752-9621
Marshalltown, IA

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