



11-2003

164th Infantry News: November 2003

164th Infantry Association

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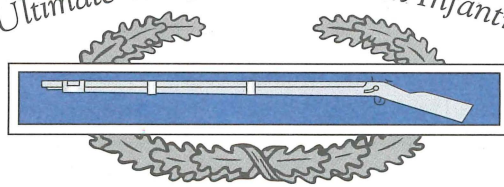
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The Ultimate Weapon the Combat Infantryman



THE 164TH INFANTRY NEWS

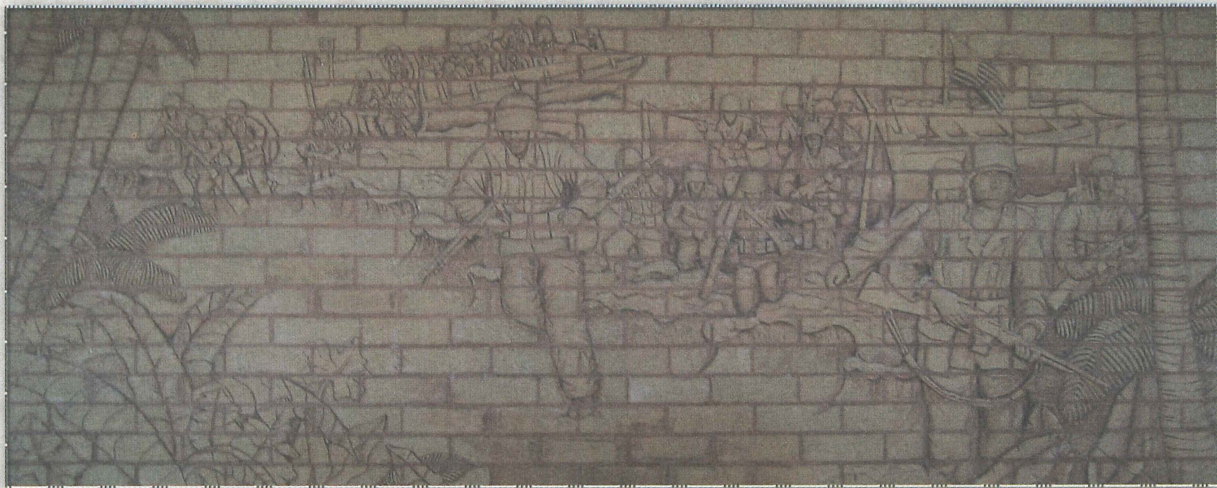
Vol. 44 • No.3

November, 2003

Happy Thanksgiving  Merry Christmas
Happy New Year

Starting in 1941 through 1945 the 164th Regiment (Rifle) spent these happy holidays in Camp Claiborne, LA, West Coast area, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, landed on Bougainville Christmas Day. On Bougainville the men saw an active volcano for the first time in their life. Mount Bagano is the name of the smoking-belching mountain that presented an awe-inspiring view. The ominous presence of the up coming invasion of Japan was on every ones mind. Training for the landing in Japan was stepped up, point system initiated some lucky guys were going home. The big bomb was dropped and the war was ended. So many of our comrades never made the trip home for the holidays as they were KIA (killed in action) or DOW (died of wounds). Now so many have answered the Last Roll Call. C'est La Viva.

A Landing



The old armory in Wapheton had been home to I Company 164th Infantry when the unit moved to Camp Claiborne Feb. 1941. In the summer of the year 2002 plans were underway to construct a new National Guard Armory in Wapheton, ND. In the planning for a new armory Lt. Col. Steve Tabor commissioned a project to depict a part of history that is very familiar to the people of the United States and especially to North Dakotans. The object was to create a scene showing a landing on Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands. This project would be a long lasting tribute to the men that participated in a life and death battle for an island the Japanese called "The Island of Death" and the US forces

named it 'The Green Hell'. The landing of the 1st Marine Division on Guadalcanal August 7, 1942 was a bold step forward to stop the enemy from gaining a larger foothold in the Pacific. The Guadalcanal landing and subsequent victory protected New Caledonia, Fiji Islands and stopped the threat to Australia. 13 October 1942 the 164th Infantry Regiment (Rifle) landed on Guadalcanal to reinforce the battered, tired 1st Marine Division. Janet Flom was the artist selected to create a sculptured wall showing the landing on Guadalcanal. Flom is a well known artist in Fargo, ND. Flom has a degree in Russian & East European Studies from University of Michigan and a law degree from William

Mitchell College of Law. Flom's commissioned paintings appear in public and private collections in 10 US States and Canada.

The artist had to do considerable research to determine the correct vegetation, military uniforms, and type of weapons carried by the troops coming out of the landing craft. A close look at the rifle carried by troops are M1 rifles so this creates in the eyes of the viewer that the troops are US Army. The mural is approximately 14 feet wide about 6 feet tall and took six months to complete. The problem was to portray a panoramic image of a beach landing which includes life size figure and many more smaller figures at a distance, and a foreshortened landing craft. The brick wall was build in the artist's studio basement. When the mural was completed it had to be taken apart and moved from the Fargo studio and rebuilt in the armory in Wapheton. The brick mural is a fine tribute to the troops that landed on Guadalcanal. Thanks to the initiative of the Lt. Col. Tabor, the North Dakota National Guard and the artistic skills of Janet Flom this tribute will last for many years.

WWII MEMORIAL DEDICATION

There is a possibility that the ND Air National Guard will provide a plane for WWII Veterans to attend the dedication of the WWII Memorial, Washington, DC, May 28 - June 1, year 2004. Hotel rates, Washington area, range from \$125 a day to \$350 or more. A bus tour of the District of Columbia area to cover the time before and after the parade from the US Capital and the to ceremonies on the Mall. If you are interested in the trip call or write to Ben Kemp S/T, P.O. Box 1111, Bismarck, ND 58502-1111. Telephone 701-222-4694.

GRASS CUTTERS, ND VETERANS CEMETERY

Thanks to a group of volunteers the grass would be knee high if the dedicated individuals failed to show up to mow the grass and complete other maintenance details. The efforts of these individuals keep the Veterans Cemetery neat and trim. A special thanks to the following retired guardsmen that make a special effort to provide a comforting view to visitors to the cemetery.

- William Frahm Col ND Air National Guard
- Vern Fetch Col ND Army National Guard
- Butch Lang Col ND Army National Guard
- "Q" Friese LTC ND Army National Guard
- Gary Helgesen Maj ND Army National Guard
- Phil Ehli CW4 ND Army National Guard
- Ben Kemp CW4 ND Army National Guard
- Howie Unterseher SMAJ ND Army National Guard
- Norm Ostboe MSGT ND Army National Guard

PROUDLY WE SERVED

*By Richard R. Stevens, Ph.D.
Colonel, Regular Army (Retired)*

In February 1942 the 164th Infantry Regiment was temporarily housed in a pyramidal tent village in Fort Ord, California's East Garrison. The regiment was being readied for deployment overseas - by ship to New Caledonia, by way of Melbourne, Australia.

It was then that the 164th received a significant infusion of replacements - equally well-trained enlisted members of other Midwest National Guard regiments which also had been rushed to California in response to Pearl Harbor. Sixteen of us of various enlisted grades, came to M/164 from Company "M" of the Kansas 137th Infantry Regiment - along with a similar number from Company "M" of Nebraska's 134th Infantry Regiment. We came as strangers.

The majority of those we joined were North Dakotans. However, we "new bloods" were warmly received, quickly assimilated. In the months and years to come it was share and share alike.

Certainly our Lawrence, Kansas Sixteen experienced a mixed bag of fates in M/164. One (Chester Foster) immediately became its First Sergeant. A couple of years later another (Johnnie Kasberger) assumed that role. A third (Frank Donham) was one of the members of the 164th who mastered a mini-OCS on New Caledonia, were proudly commissioned as "mint fresh" Second Lieutenants, and transferred to units other than their own throughout the Regiment.

Two members of the Lawrence Sixteen were to be killed in action as members of M/164; Lewis Knight (a high school classmate) on Guadalcanal and Albert Collins in the Philippines.

On New Caledonia, Lawrence native Private Jack Gibler was sent away from M/164 on temporary duty - along with a "peep" (later to permanently be called the "jeep") - to the newly formed Americal Division Peep Troops. He never returned. The Peep Troops became the Americal's 21st Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, its members permanently assigned. (Did "M" Company get back its' peep/jeep, I wonder?) On Bougainville Island, Private Jack Gibler was killed in action under circumstances for which he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. I get back to Lawrence every couple of years. And never fail to spend a moment at Jack's grave in Oak Hill Cemetery. (Jack and I each enlisted at age sixteen in M/137).

I was to stay with M/164 until February 1945, graduating modestly to Staff Sergeant. On Leyte, in January, a program was initiated from some higher level under which two men from each company each month (from among the originals deployed overseas), could be rotated back to the States. "M" Company decided to initiate a raffle. My name came out the second month! Further confirmation that, for me, M/164 always had been a "lucky break".

The Lawrence Kansas Sixteen. We came to the 164th as strangers. We came to be accepted, and served together with our North Dakota comrades as brothers. Members for life, proudly we served. Je Suis Pret.

To do when a Vet dies

1. Contact the Mortuary Funeral Director of your choice to arrange for interment.
2. Contact the Pastor of your Church to arrange for the services you desire.
3. Bring to the Mortuary Funeral Director, a copy of the veteran's discharge, separation notice or DD 214; VA claim number if known; and Veteran's Social Security Number for burial.
4. The Funeral Director will apply for the amount allowable from the Veterans Administration toward burial expenses, and also the allowance from Social Security for burial.
5. The Funeral Director will apply for the Flag to drape the casket.
6. If the Veteran is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Post Commander should be contacted for the ritual service, firing squad if any, and casket bearers, if needed.
7. If the Veteran had G.I. Insurance, contact the County Veterans Service Officer for assistance in completing the forms. If it is commercial insurance contact the agent of the company that insured the Veteran.
8. Spouse should contact Social Security Office to file for benefits that may be available for self and for children.
9. The County Veterans Service Officer will assist the spouse and children in obtaining any benefits to which they may be entitled such as, survivors death benefits from VA, and headstone if burial is in a private cemetery. Bring to the County Veterans Service Office the following information when applying for benefits:
 - A. Copy of the deceased Veteran's service record (discharge.)
 - B. The Veterans Administration claim number if there is one.
 - C. Social Security numbers of the deceased veteran, spouse and dependent children.
 - D. G.I. Insurance policies, if any.
 - E. Have information as to marriage, birth dates of children, and if any prior marriages existed, the information regarding when, where, and how dissolved (death or divorce).
 - F. Copy of death certificate of Veteran.

OVERVIEW OF THE REUNION

As the members gathered together for the social activities a fine hum of friendship and greetings could be heard along with much laughter over events recalled from the war time year spent in WWII. When the time for the annual banquet approached the ladies of the 164th were each given a single long stem rose in a bud vase for carrying home. This was a very nice touch. This gesture was really appreciated by the ladies. Each dinner plate rested on a colorful place mat. The front of the place mat displayed a picture of the 164th Infantry Memorial, at the Veterans Cemetery and the 164th Regimental Crest. On the back of the mat a brief history of the 164th Infantry Regiment (Rifle) in WWII. A limited supply is available. If you wish to have one or more order from Ben Kemp s/t - box 111, Bismarck, ND 58502-1111. Cost \$2.00 for first mat and \$1.00 each additional one.

With WWII Veterans answering the Last Roll at about 1200 a day many individuals and organizations have started projects to interview and video tape the personal experience of WWII Vets. Mary Palmer, teacher, Bismarck Century High School supervised two students, A.J. Torgerson, Connor Gerais in conducting personal interviews. Good training for the students and a saving of history for future studies. So many events going at the reunion there was only time for 5 interviews, also the students had to be back in school. Eric Nelson, Associate member, son of Thurston Nelson, L Company, attended the 164th reunion for the specific purpose to interview as many of WWII - 164th as time would allow. Eric Nelson interviewed 20 individuals. Eric this is a great project. Thanks for your action in saving the personal experience of many of the WWII Vets.

The business session opened with approval the last year reunion minutes as published in the 164th Infantry news. The following resolutions were introduced and passed, (1) thanking the reunion committee, (2) thanking the dedicated retired National Guard personnel (Grass Mowers), (3) a resolution requesting the Prime Minister of the Solomon Islands to refrain from changing the name of Henderson Field to a more modern name. This resolution to be forwarded to the ND Congressional delegation for their support and the 1st Marine Division; (4) a motion to amend Article 1X Dissolution of the by-laws. This action was taken to Clarify the name of North Dakota Veterans Cemetery Foundation, Inc. This reads as follows:

The first priority for the distribution of assets after all just liabilities have been paid shall be made to the North Dakota Veteran Cemetery Foundation, Inc., a Section 501(c)(3) corporation, PO Box 5511, Bismarck, North Dakota, 58506-5511, for the specific purpose of continuing maintenance of the 164th Infantry memorial located at the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery, Mandan, North Dakota.

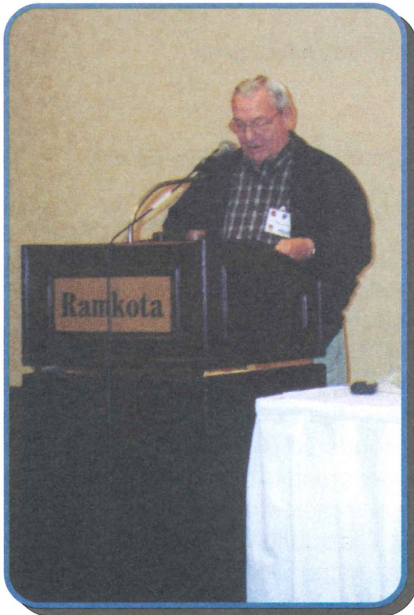
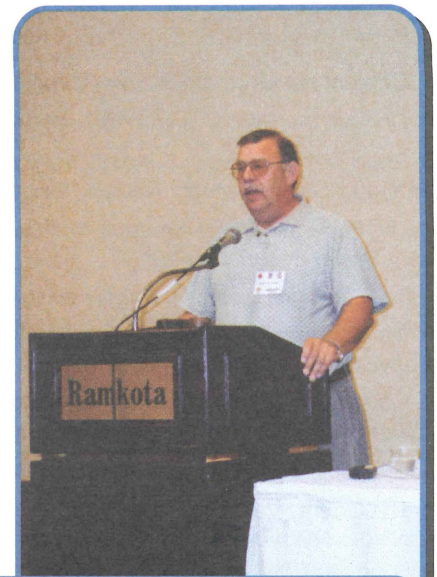
The decision on the motion created a great dichotomy as one member wanted to take \$15,000 out of association funds put in the N.D. Veterans Cemetery Foundation for sole purpose of maintaining the 164th Infantry Memorial. Several years ago the Association donated \$5025.00 to the Veterans Cemetery. This donation certainly should take care of any maintenance requirements involving the 164th Memorial. The memorial is constructed from granite and should last for many years. Several emotional speeches were made that we aren't going to live forever. The pleas to grab the \$15,000 for a pet project is analogous, to taking an inheritance before the

Continued on pg 5



A happy couple from Medicine Lodge, Kansas. Nancy holding the beautiful rose given to each lady at the reunion banquet. Raymond Sinkbeil was with the 2nd BN 164th Communication section.

Warren Ventsch (associate member) son of Ervin A. Ventsch (deceased), A Company. Warren reported to the members present at the reunion that plans are under way to develop procedures for students to apply for 164th Infantry Scholarship.

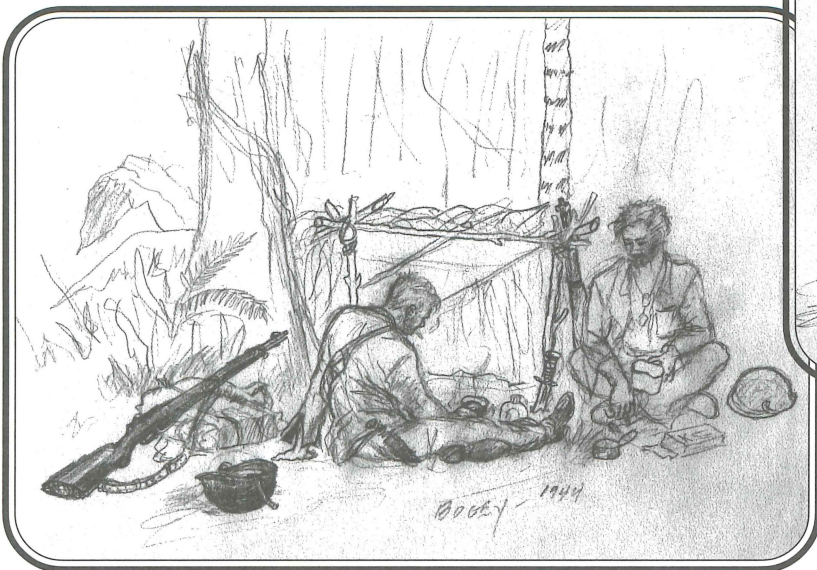


Milt Kane reporting on the status of the 164th Scholarship fund. The scholarship fund is now incorporated as a separate organization, justified as a 501-C-3 non-profit corporation. All contributions are tax deductible.



Photo credit: J. Fenelon

President Frank R. Eide, Sr. handing the gavel to incoming President "Bernie" Wagner for year 2004.



Sketchs by:
Doug Burtell

Continued from pg 3

individual is dead. Of course many are placing their fealty with a local group that has been scheming to move the 164th fund to the Cemetery as it will embed them with the ND Adjutant General. There are other projects that are very worthy of funding. Projects that will keep the history of the 164th Infantry alive. The 164th Infantry Association is not dead yet. There are a number of 164th Korean Veterans in the Association and many more that could be members. Orlyen "The Owl" Stensgard, 164th Korean Vet is starting a movement to have Korean Vets become more active and provide leadership. These men becoming active would preserve the spirit, comradere, and above all the history of the 164th Infantry. The motion to amend and update the by-laws was passed. No action taken to transfer any funds to the Veterans Cemetery.

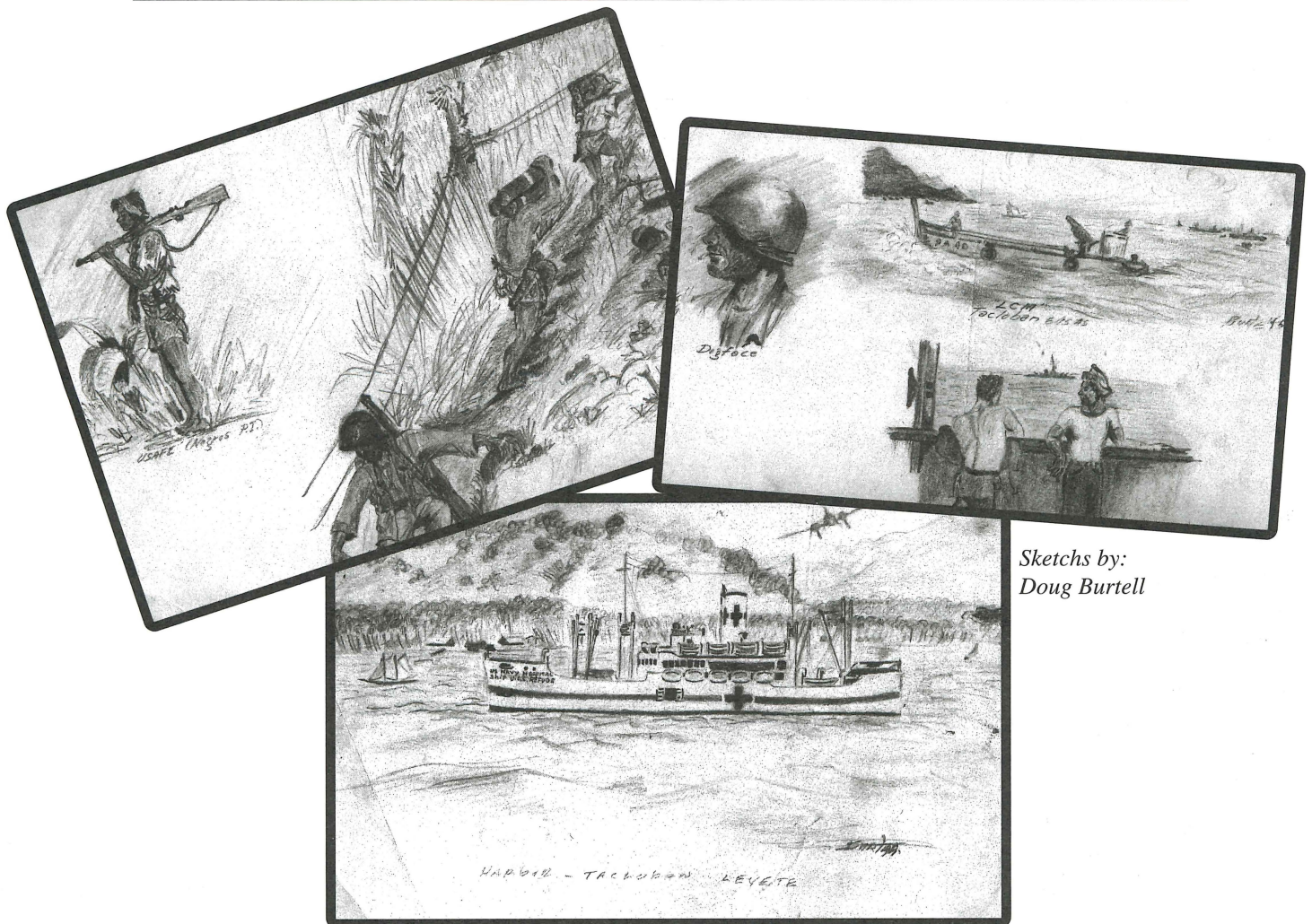
A speaker representing the ND Adjutant Generals office pointed out that any individual in the National Guard or Reserves can expect to be called up every five years for a lengthy tour of duty. Does this mean that the United States will be facing a war situation on a regular basis? The banquet speaker was Jack van der Gust authored a book "Was God on Vacation". In his book van der Gust gives a most extraordinary account of his life as a Dutch youth during the Nazi years 1940 to 1947. He takes the audience through the Nazi invasion of the Netherlands, home life under the Nazis,

internment in the Buchenwald death camp, his escape, the French Underground, D-Day with American 101st Airborne Division, liberation of France. The speech telling about the various escapes from the Nazi was awesome but a little lengthy.

During the business meeting the question came up asking which members came the longest distance, response, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, California, Washington, the answer Richard Wiest (associate member) flew from Prague Czechoslovakia to Seattle, Washington then flew with his father Al Wiest to the reunion.

The entertainment and music provided by the 188 Army band that was great. Some of the reunion committee were concerned about the financial situation of the reunion. The concern was that there might be a financial deficit. Well the reunion income \$10273.18 - final cost \$9435.31 a surplus of \$837.87. A close call but everything ok. A very important financial support for the annual reunion is the sale of the 164th raffle tickets. Their support by the membership is most gratifying to the reunion committee. Thanks.

The Sunday breakfast buffet is always a moment of sadness as one can look around a wonder who might soon be answering the Last Roll Call. Next reunion Valley City, N.D., Sept. 19-20-21 year 2004.



Sketchs by:
Doug Burtell

THE FIGHTING SEABEES



Scene from "The Fighting Seabees"

On left - Jim McNulty (CBMU 549) Minnesota
Center - Leonid Kinski (Republic Studios)
Right - George Manyak (CBMU 549) Ohio

Dear Mr. Fenelon,

After breaking out of Camp Perry, VA "boot camp" in Mid-July (1943), about 200 plus men and I were assembled into C.B.M.U. 549 (That's Navy Talk for Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit). After a five-day "Luxury trip" across the U.S.A., we were stationed at U.S.N.B. Port Hueneme just outside of Oxnard, Calif. for further training.

In Mid-Aug., or Sept., we were shipped out by train to Bremerton Navy yard just across Puget Sound from Seattle. Our stay in Bremerton was short lived, however, and we were soon aboard a World War I transport bound for Kodiak Island (just off the coast Alaska).

After a couple of days, one of my shipmates noted that "the sun's in the wrong place". Sure enough, we were heading south along the coast and our ship put into San Francisco Bay (the Golden Gate).

Scuttlebutt had it that we had missed a convoy bound for Tarawa with the 2nd Marine Division. Luck was with us. We were back in Port Hueneme a few weeks later - and our unit had been selected by Navy Department to assist Republic Studios in the Filming of "The Fighting Seabees". Our unit set up a self-contained "tent city" on Inverson's Ranch near Chatsworth in San Fernando Valley. San Fernando (the city) was a great Liberty Town.

Through no brilliance on our part, instead of being potential heroes and having a brush with death, we had the opportunity to brush shoulders with the likes of John Wayne, Dennis O'Keefe, William Frawley, Susan Hayward, Leonid Kinski and Grant Withers. It was a heady experience and also my introduction to Gin Rummy. They played it every day.

All good things must come to an end. On Feb. 22nd we shipped out for real (to guess where) to Tarawa in the Gilbert Islands.

We spent a year on Betio (the main island on the Atoll involved in the Marine Corp's invasion). We made "midnight requisitions" under the supervision of our new marine buddies - like fruit cocktail and other goodies - from the stores of the

regular Navy's "ship's Company". Remnants of the 2nd Marine Division were still there and we enjoyed their company until they left. After seeing to the electrical and refrigeration needs, we gathered up all our equipment and shipped out to the Kwajalein Atoll one year to the day from our arrival on Betio.

The main island of Kwajalein had all its vegetation blown off during the invasion (as did Betio), but it didn't appear nearly as devastated as Betio. It seemed much more like a stateside base. I had fancy 1-story barracks as opposed to rough looking tents with active rats and land crabs.

One thing remained constant, starting way back in boot camp my tent mates were Don McColgan, George McFaul, Jack McKee, Dave McKinney, L.J. McMath. If someone used the old navy salute "Hi, Mac", he could start a stampede.

The war was winding down. Europe was over and the A-bomb said "hello" to Hiroshima, so things were almost civilian-like, except for the chicken regulations starting to re-appear.

We had more leisure time and a couple of buddies and myself were strolling along the Atoll shore of Kwajalein Atoll. I noticed an item almost out of sight in the sand. Upon a closer inspection it turned out to be a piece of film about 1 1/2' long. It was from the film "The Fighting Seabees".

Not enough of a coincidence? How about the fact that a picture (enclosed & enlarged) was a scene of L. to R. - Jim McNulty (MN), Leonid Kinski (Republic Pictures) and George Manyak (Ohio) aboard ship and preparing for a landing.

I asked all around trying to locate the origin of the film, but nobody had any information. Almost two years had transpired since the filming, Kwajalein was over 5,000 miles W. of Hollywood and I found it on the sand - just a fragment of film. Go figure the odds of that!

Sincerely,

Jim McNulty
2921 33rd Ave NE
St. Anthony, MN 5418

P.S. I was Seaman 1st Class in Calif. Discharged as Electrician Mate 1st Class.

(Ed. Note: The Seabees were created in WWII to meet the need of having experienced & trained personnel in the Construction field. The 6th Seabees on Guadalcanal performed miracles in keeping Henderson Field and the marine fighter strips repaired after the Jap bombings and Japanese battleships shellings. Many times the Seabees Construction crews were filling in the bomb holes as soon as the (Code) condition green alarm all clear was sounded after the Jap bombers had just cleared the area and were on their return flight to Bougainville & Truk Island. Thanks Seabees for a great job well done).

"A lie can get halfway around the world before the truth gets its boots on".

James Callaghan
Britain Prime Minister 1976-1979

The 58th annual meeting of the 164th Infantry Association was called to order by our President, Frank Eide at 1000 hours on the 20th of September 2003 at the Ramkota Hotel, Bismarck, North Dakota.

Officers Present:

1. Frank Eide, President
1. Bernie Wagner, Vice President
1. Ben Kemp, Secretary/Treasurer

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present, led by our President.

President Eide introduced the Assistant Adjutant General of North Dakota, Col. Jerald Engelman, ND Air National Guard. Col. Engelman gave an update on the North Dakota National Guard.

The minutes of the 57th annual reunion were printed in the November 2002 issue of our newsletter, it was requested that they be approved as printed. This was voted on and approved.

A finance committee was appointed yesterday so that they had time to audit the financial record of the 164th Association. Bernie Wagner, Finance Chairman reported that the records were audited and were accepted by his committee. A motion was made by Bernie to approve the finance records, seconded, and approved.

Our president appointed a "Time and Place Committee" of Don Robinson and Vern Fetch.

The finance committee (appointed yesterday) was Bernie Wagner, Walley Johnson and Red Cherrey.

President Eide appointed a "Resolutions Committee" of James M. Fenelon, Red Cherrey and Alvin Tollefrud.

A "Nominating Committee" of Frank Eide, Neyl McClure and Roy Fries was appointed.

Everyone was told to take a 15-min. break, so that the appointed committees could meet.

The meeting was called back to order by the President.

Time & Place Committee reported Valley City, North Dakota for 2004. Hosted by the Valley City VFW on 17 - 19 September 2004. This was made into motion, seconded, voted on and approved. Valley City - 17 -19 September 2004.

James Fenelon reported the following resolutions:

1. Thanking our President, Frank Eide
2. Thanking the reunion committee
3. Thanking the Guardsmen that mow the Veterans Cemetery
4. Not to change the name - Henderson Field Guadalcanal
5. Thanking Col. Allen W. Schuldt and Warren Ventsch of Valley City, ND for their display
6. Thanking Gregory Heinz of Bismarck for his display

A motion was made to approve all resolutions, second and voted on and passed.

The "Nominating Committee" reported Bernie Wagner for President, Ray Kriedlkamp of Valley City, ND for Vice President and Ben Kemp for Secretary/Treasurer. No other nominations were made. A motion was made, seconded, voted on and passed.

President Eide asked for any old business.

Jim Fenelon stated that we are still waiting to hear on the status on our request for the Medal of Honor to be awarded to MSGT. Woodrow W. Keeble.

President Eide talked about how long the Association is going to last. Valley City next year - then what? Membership had dropped 87 individuals in the past year and attendance at the reunion had dropped by 25 members this year. Our secretary treasurer has wanted out for the past three years. After Valley City, a reunion in the year 2005, the attendance could be less than 50. With that small a number the cost of the reunion would more than double. This year could be the first year for some time that we could end up in the "Red" on the costs for the reunion. The question was asked about changing the by-laws so that associate members could hold office. The president reminded members that if this happened we could have a "Lady" as President. The matter was dropped.

President Eide stated that if there is no more old business, we will move on to new business.

Milt Kane, Alvin Tollefrud & Warren Ventsch reported on the 164th Infantry Scholarship Foundation. The Foundation is alive and well and they are starting to seek students, Jr./Sr.'s that are history majors. To receive a scholarship they have to write on the history of the 164th Infantry. This is an attempt to get what the 164th did in WWII back in the history books. This is a 501(c)(3) organization and donations are tax deductible.

President Eide stated that a change to our by-laws is required because the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery Foundation changed their name/title. Under the old article IX "Dissolution" distribution of funds shall be made to the North Dakota Militia Foundation. The new title is The North Dakota Veterans Cemetery Foundation, Inc., A Section 501(c)(3) Corporation, PO Box 5511 Bismarck, ND 58506-5511.

The following is to be added to Article IX dissolution. Funds, for the specific purpose of continuing maintenance of the 164th Infantry Memorial Monument located at the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery, Mandan, North Dakota.

Bernie Wagner made a motion to change Article IX (dissolution) and to include that we set aside the amount of \$15,000.00 as a minimum for the maintenance of our monument. This was opposed by Jim Fenelon. After some discussion the amount of monies was dropped and Jim Fenelon made a motion that Article IX (dissolution) as read by our president be approved. It was seconded by Bernie Wagner, voted on and approved.

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CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE 164TH NEWSLETTER As of September 2003

\$250.00

Lyle F. Mollet Mesa, AZ

\$150.00

Joseph A. Castagneto Lincoln, AL

\$100.00

Winifred M. Berntsen St. Paul, MN

Robert M. Carr Oakland, CA

Earl "Red" L. Cherrey Fairview, MT

Eric F. Engbrecht Hobbs, NM

John E. Gunderson Vancouver, WA.

Mary L. Kingston Union, WA

Richard R. Stevens Louisville, KY

Ida G. Swenson Grand Forks, ND

Wendell W. Wichmann Cockeysville, MD

\$80.00

Lavern M. Overby Harker Heights, TX

\$54.00

Paul F. Fisher Dickinson, ND

\$50.00

Tony B. Clausen Williston, ND

Blance Dest Hamden, CT

In Memory of Joseph F. Dest

Don Docktor Laurie, MO

Harry Dolyniuk Thompson, GA

Bill Falk Lafayette, CA

Roger B. Fuller Middleport, NY

Joe Gummeringer Las Cruces, MN

James R. McLaughlin Fargo, ND

Laclair A. Melhouse Bismarck, ND

Adam J. Mitenberger Carson City, NV

Donna Opat Spring, TX

Edna Rahn Hazen, ND

Lloyd A. Weber North Hollywood, CA

\$40.00

Arthur W. Hanley Mount Vernon, WA

Otto E. Heath Anaheim, CA

Gregory Heinz Bismarck, ND

John A. Landowski Grand Forks, ND

Horace F. Nearhood Toledo, OH

Allen W. Schuldts Valley City, ND

Ted. N. Steckler Tustin, CA

Charlene M. Tittsworth Miles City, MT

William J. Tucker Edmond, OK

Richard C. Wiest Washington, DC

\$35.00

George Hammer Melbourne, FL

\$30.00

John N. Alme Hemet, CA

Lewis Baumann Fenton, OH

Vernon W. Bogner Tigard, OR

Paul E. Dickerson North Canton, OH

Raymond F. Ellerman Las Vegas, NV

Charlotte M. Engstrom Moorhead, MN

Paul T. Gray Laguna Woods, CA

Donald H. Jackson Santa Rosa, CA

Zane E. Jacobs Seaside, CA

Kenneth Keyes Marshall, MI

Robert E. Korman Anchorage, AK

Treumann Lykken Grand Forks, ND

Kenneth Lystad Stanley, ND

Wallace G. Olson Lynnwood, WA

Laura C. Wilson Minot, ND

\$25.00

John A. Benzinger Bismarck, ND

Stephen A. Chemistruck Albuquerque, NM

Frank D. Dempsey North Riverside, IL

William C. Hanson Bullhead City, AZ

Raymond F. Sinkbeil Medicine Lodge, KS

Don "Dutch" Well Tehachapt, CA

Donald L. Wirtz Detroit Lakes, MN

\$20.00

Betty Anderson West Fargo, ND

Raymond C. Ameson Henderson, NV

Joseph H. Blissenbach Woodburn, OR

Douglas P. Burtell Bowman, ND

Vincint R. Clauson St. Paul, MN

Edward F. Collins Pleasanton, CA

Joel Fedje Hoople, ND

William J. Hagen Moorhead, MN

Donald Hoffman Jamestown, ND

Howard W. Lauter Milford, NJ

Julean & Bernice Lee Fargo, ND

In Memory of Russell Olson

John M. Paulson Carrington, ND

Lenard A. Pfarr Circle Pines, MN

Lawrence Poe Williston, ND

Vince R. Powers Hamilton, MT

Ervin H. Remmers Orange, CA

John H. Sagehorn Plymouth, MN

Gilbert Shirley Bismarck, ND

Raymond H. Steffen Grand Forks, ND

Donald Stevens Watford City, ND

Anton J. Sturn Vallejo, CA

Louis Yearke Grand Forks, ND

\$15.00

Melvin P. Bork Moorhead, MN

Harold Collins Madinson, MN

Elroy O. Greuel Havre, MT

Wallace J. Starckenberger Long Beach, CA

Neil A. Tennyson Northridge, CA

\$10.00

Janus Acampora Toms River, NJ

Robert J. Alin West Fargo, ND

Irving Blomstrann New Britain, CT

Lawrence E. Boisen Hauser, ID

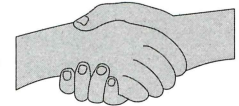
Gordon E. Bostrom Augusta, CA

Joyce E. Burd Tucson, AZ
In Memory of Elaine Griffin
Herbert V. Coffey Del Ray Oaks, CA
James P. Curran Worcester, MA
Frank De Maria Elyria, OH
Rudolph Edwardson Sharpsville, PA
Russ Elvrum Washburn, ND
T.R. Evans Alexander City, AL
Charlotte Flexhaug Williston, ND
Deloras K. Foss Crookston, MN
Clement Fox Felton, MN
Roy Fries Warren, MI
Stanley T. Gadowski Oxon Hill, MD
Lionel Garant Fall River, MA
John M. Geston Valley City, ND
Ben Glatt Bismarck, ND
Joseph L. Gleason Lincoln, TX
Lois C. Hall Sand Point, ID
Benny J. Hamna Williston, ND
Daniel R. Heisler Devils Lake, ND
Edward L. Henschel Grafton, ND
Dolores E. Hoff Eau Claire, WI
Duane Holly Bismarck, ND
Zach A. Johnson Salmon, ID
Norma M. Kane Tucson, AZ
Edwin J. Kjelstrom Rugby, ND
Brenton C. Krupich Petaluma, CA
Robert E. Korman Anchorage, AK
Richard C. Krupich Fargo, ND
Tim Kurtz Devils Lake, ND
Paul H. Longaberger Williamstown, WV
Fred R. Maier La Crosse, WI
L.C. "Lee" Marchant Laramie, WY
Albert Martin Kief, ND
Ardis Mathews Fairmont, MN
Gerald R. Maurseth Cando, ND
Douglas F. McMahon Minot, ND
Malcolm J. McKay East Helena, MT
Edward D. Mulligan Detroit Lakes, MN
Eric Nelson Turtle Lake, ND
Merritt O. Ogren Edgeley, ND
Vince Olson Valley City, ND
Nicholas Ostapchuk Rochester, NY
Clifford Ottinger Corvallis, MT
Sybill W. Pepple Fessenden, ND
Frank Radune McAuthur, OH
John J. Revers Omaha, NE
Don Robinson Bismarck, ND
Melvin Shirley Fresno, CA
Frederick P. Siems Sierra Vista, AZ
Gerald M. Skogley Bismarck, ND
Gordon B. St. Claire Detroit Lakes, MN
Doris M. Stellan Drayton, ND
Marvis Swapp Detroit Lakes, MN
Clair E. Tongen Cavalier, ND
Andrew Trageser New Park, PA
Edith Tuff Fargo, ND
Laura C. Ventsch Minot, ND
Paulette R. Wagner Havre, MT
Gerald Waldhauser South St. Paul, MN
John R. Wozniak Winter Park, FL

\$5.00

Ester M. Bleca Grand Forks, ND
Catherine Clarys Menoken, ND
Thomas J. Fischer Moorhead, MN
Howard A. Goodard San Diego, CA
William H. Johnson Jamestown, ND
Nat Rogan Los Angeles, CA
Bernard A. Scheer Hutchinson, MN
Dan Scheer Hutchinson, MN
Hunter S. Smith Williston, ND
Donna J. Todd Puyallup, WA
Owen C. Wallace Fessenden, ND
Total: \$4,379.00

WELCOME



New Members

Walter V. Johnson
Rugby, ND Co. "D"
Dennis W. Larson
Fargo, ND Co. "B"

New Associate Life Members

Robert D. Amstrup
Bismarck, ND

New Associate Members

Linda Breitenstein
Vancouver, WA
Daughter of John & Edith Tuff
Mary Lou Drain
Edmond, OK
Lynn Mutchler
Northwood, ND
Daughter of Ed Goff
Eric E. Nelson
Turtle Lake, ND
Son of Thurston Nelson
Kathleen A. Olson
Leonard, ND
Daughter of Ed Goff
Kathy Paulson
Olympia, WA
Daughter of John & Edith Tuff
John H. Tuff
Lansborro, MN
Son of John & Edith Tuff
William M. Tuff
West Fargo, ND
Son of John & Edith Tuff

LETTERS



To The Editor :

164TH INFANTRY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Dear Sirs,

I read about your scholarship fund in the current 164th Infantry Newsletter. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$136.00. The balance of the monetary tribute I received at his funeral. I can think of no better use for it than the 164th Scholarship Fund for needy students.

Thank you kindly.

Sincerely yours,

Catherine Clarys (Mr. John Clarys)
General Delivery
Menoken, ND - August 7, 2003

(Ed. Note from Jim Fenelon. Thank you very much for your very thoughtful action. The contribution will help the 164th Infantry Scholarship Fund to grow. The name of John Clarys will be listed when a scholarship is awarded).

Enclosed is a check for thirty dollars. \$10.00 dues, \$10.00 for the raffle and \$10.00 for the 164th Infantry Newsletter. I can't make the reunion although I'd love to but illness prevents me from going, but I still like to know what's going on in the outfit.

Mr. Lionel Garant
71 Consul Street
Fall River, MA 02720
Co. "G"

7-20-2003

Dear Frank

Sorry I will not be at the reunion but I hope they have a good turn out & good times.

I was in "B" Co. 164th in Bougainville worked my way in becoming the 1st Sergeant of "B" Co. ending up in Japan.

Yours truly,
Nick Ostapchuk
582 Ramon Street
Rochester, NY 14615

7/17/13

Dear Frank:

Best wishes for another successful reunion. We are unable to attend, the ranks are very thinning, but will be there in heart.

Attached is check for annual dues \$10.00, \$25.00 newsletter, \$10.00 tickets. Tickets stub enclosed.

Donald (Dutch) Wells
1st Bu. Hdq. Det.
17560 Cedar Canyon Road
Techapi, CA 93561-5527

7/21/03

164th Infantry Association:

Enclosed \$20 for raffle tickets. 3 stubs enclosed, pick 3 more - don't send stubs - if we win I'll donate proceeds to 164.

Thanks for all the work you put in - I do appreciate it. I'm going to try to make the reunion but at present plans are not definite.

Chuck Bell 164th Band
Chas. T. Bell
113 E. Bay Ave.
Newport Beach, CA 92661-1119

Dear Jim:

Sorry to report that we cannot make the reunion this year due to the pangs of growing older and the old wounds are acting up that make traveling a pain the you know what. Make sure you have my new address, please let me win one of the door prizes as I want to donated it to the News Letter fund, which I enjoy receiving and reading. Don't want to miss an issue. Don't know if you can you use the enclosed pics but I'm sure any old Co. "B" men will remember then. Enclosing a check for \$35.00 for tickets and \$25.00 for the newsletter. Please excuse typos, I'm new at this.

Yours in Comradeship,
Bill Hanson
P.O. Box 3943
Chico Valley, AZ 86323

(Ed. Note: Thanks for the pictures).

Enclosed is a check. Use for publishing & mailing 164th News, which I enjoy reading and pictures of chaps from Claiborne to South Pacific.

Joseph Blissenbach
233 E. Clackamas Circle
Woodburn, OR 97071-4403

8-18-03

Dear Mr. Kemp,

Am returning a check for membership dues and book of raffle tickets - (\$10.00 Each - \$20.00).

Some medical problems have come up since I requested membership information and we feel it unwise to attend this year - but still wish to belong to the 164th. Maybe next year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Walter Johnson
Date of service - Feb. 1940 - Dec. 1944
Unit - Company "D" - 164th Infantry - Rugby

.....

164th Infantry,

Here are my \$10.00 dues and \$10.00 for the 164th News. Sorry I can't make the reunion.

Malcolm J. McKay
P.O. Box 1083
East Helena, MT 59635-1083
"B" Company

.....

August 5, 2003

Frank Eide

164th Infantry Reunion

Bismarck, ND 58504

Frank,

I am enclosing a check for the raffle tickets and \$100 for the Newsletter fund. I have made a reservation at the hotel - and plan to be there for the reunion - but I have some cataract surgery to get through before then - so if all goes well - I will call you in regards to my registration.

Mary Kriegston
201 Westwood lane
Union, WA 98592

(Ed. Note: Thanks for your generous contribution to the 164th Infantry News).

.....

Hi,

Don't know if we will make it to the reunion. Have too much illness in the family. We really enjoy the 164th Newsletter. Keep up the good work. Enclosed is \$20 to help keep it coming.

Best wishes,

John M. Paulson
80 2nd Ave. N
Carrington, ND 58421-1739
"F" Company

Hi Ben,

If you see "Wendy" or Unice Wichman at the reunion you can give them my raffle prizes if I win. Have a great reunion. Would love to be there.

Norma Kane
7570 E. Speedway #447
Tucson, AZ 85710

.....

Fellow Veterans,

Enclosed is a check for \$30.00 for the annual dues, raffle tickets and for the mailing fund. Enjoy reading about all my comrades and their activities.

Sorry I can't attend this year's reunion, but will be looking forward to next years.

John Rever
2814 S. 35th St.
Omaha, NE 68105
Co. "K"

.....

While I cannot attend - I will be out of the country. I wish to support the group.

LoRaine Cecil
Widow of Jim Cecil
"E" Company

.....

August 3, 2003

Dear Ben,

Due to illness I will not be able to attend this years reunion.

Enclosed is a check for \$50. \$10 for tickets and \$40 for Jim, (for the Newsletter).

I sure look forward to getting the newsletter.

John A. Landowski
2200 S. 29th 43 S.
Grand Forks, ND 58201

(Ed. Note from Jim Fenelon: Thanks for your generous financial support, but this does not waive the fact that you skipped basic training in Camp Claiborne, LA (1941) and landed a lush job as a driver for Lt. Shervin. Hope your health improves).

.....

"Propaganda is that branch of the art of lying which consists in very nearly deceiving your friends without quite deceiving your enemies".

*F.M. Conford British Scholar
From Ted Gup author of "The Book of Honor" the secret lives of lives of CIA agents.*

8-2-2003

Jim Fenelon, Editor

Your articles, pages, where the 164th Infantry had to take over for the 182nd Infantry whose soldiers left the front lines; and I was one 164th soldier who saw a 182nd soldier throw his canteen of water to a wounded 182nd soldier saying you may need it more than me. (Just a little glimpse of what happened)

I enjoyed your news articles and pictures; and the nice pictures of Lt. Ben Osborne; and myself as a P.F.C. helped Lt. Osborne when he acted as a referee on maneuver in Louisiana and Texas.

The pictures of USS President Coolidge ship was good to see.

I am now 84 years old having had open-heart surgery and doing pretty good. Serving with the 164th Infantry is one of my proudest accomplishments and memories.

Sincerely,

V.R. Powers
Co. "B" 164th Infantry
816 Nez Perce Dr.
Hamilton, MT 59840

.....
\$100 contribution for the 164th Infantry Newsletter.

Winifred Bernsten
Niece of Father Tracy
664 Front Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55103

(Ed. Note: Thanks for your generous donation to the 164th Newsletter. Ms. Bernsten is compiling a history of the life of Father Tracy, Chaplain for the 164th and appreciate any pictures or stories about Father Tracy).

.....
Brent and I will not be going to the reunion this year. Enclosed is a check for \$10 for the 164th News. Keep up the good work.

Brenton C. Knudson

Sorry I can't attend. I read all of the 164th Newsletter. Wife of William (Bill Hall - Co. "F" Med Det)

Lois C. Hall
P.O. Box 626
Sandpoint, ID 83864-3626

.....
Lawrence Poe ("E" Co.) will not be at the reunion. He is 95 and is very poor health. Hope you have great reunion.

Curletta Poe
Wife of Larry Poe
1226 Main Street
Williston, ND 58801

(Ed. Note: Thanks for contribution to the 164th Newsletter)

Aug. 12, 2003

My wife and I have decided that we will not be able to attend the reunion, but a check in the amount of \$50.00 is enclosed for the following purposes:

2004 dues - \$10.00; raffle tickets - \$10.00; Newsletter support - \$30.00.

As I wrote a year ago, each year the ranks get thinner. Never-the-less, should you run into any of my friends, e.g. Tony Beer, members of Co. "L" with whom I served in Guadalcanal, members of Co. "K" with whom I served in Bougainville and Leyte, and any member of the band with whom I served during the early days in Camp Claiborne plus a few weeks in New Caledonia, please give them my best regards.

Best wishes and have a great reunion!

Ray Ellerman
2825 Legend Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89134

P.S. Would you please give these ticket stubs to the reunion committee

.....
8/11/03

Dear Frank Eide/Ben Kemp,

Have enclosed my raffle tickets for the 2003 reunion plus a check for the continuation of the 164th Inf. News. Receiving this publication makes for interesting reading & who is still around and able to be in attendance.

Sue & I will not be able to make it again this year - Hopefully the next. Too many health problems cropped up this year - so no traveling.

Greet the old Heads there at the reunion and am sure it will be a success.

Sincerely,

John E. Gunderson
8808 N. Lakeshore Ave.
Vancouver, WA 98665-6526

.....
August 12, 2003

Mr. Ben Kemp,

Enclosed please find a check for the amount of \$55.00. I would like to order two (2) bumper stickers.

My father is Bernard Scheer. He was in "K" Company of the 164th during WWII. He recently turned 85 years old and is in good health except for diminishing sight. My mother reads the Newsletter to him and then it is given to me to read.

I have been reading the Newsletter for years and each one continues to remind me of how brave and courageous you fellows were so many years ago. This country owes each and every one of you a huge dept of gratitude.

Sincerely,

Dan W. Scheer
22293 Country Road 7
Hutchinson, MN 55350

If I should win raffle, keep it for the 164th Newsletter.

Wallace H. Olson
14322 Admiralty Way Unit 9
Lynwood, WA 98037-1737

(Ed. Note: Lets hope you win the raffle. Good Luck)

.....
Editor - 164th Inf. News

My brother Alan H. Overby was with Merrill's Marauders, Company "G", Valley City. Last Role Call in 1980.

I enjoy the Newsletter.

Thanks

Col. Lavren N. Overby (Ret.)
931 Cottonwood North Drive
Harken Heights, TX 76548

(Ed. Note: Thanks for your \$80 for Newsletter. Merrill's Marauders really had a very tough WWII assignment, fought in a hellhole of jungle-mountains, very hard terrain and was really abused and misused by General "Vinger Joe" Stillwill. General Stillwill should have been reprimanded for his misuse of Merrill's Marauders. Apparently "Vinger Joe" was trying to save his ass and humiliation for Joe being run out of Burma. Apparently the WPPA takes care of it's own).

.....
August 19, 2003

The 164th Inf.

Frank Eide

P.O. Box 1111

Bismarck, ND 58502-1111

Enclosed is a check for \$30. \$10 for raffle tickets, and \$20 for annual dues for Jeanette Skinner, and myself.

I would like to attend the reunion, at present time I'm not certain if it will be possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Luella Avens
2334 Wyoming
Billings, MT 59102-3908

.....
I doubt I will be able to make the reunion this year. As I have macular degereration in my eyes. I am sending a check for \$50. \$10 for dues, \$10 for tickets and \$30 for whenever your newsletter needs it.

Ms. Laura C. Wilson

.....
Lives of great men all remind us. We can make our lives sublime, and departing leaves behind our Footprints on the sands of time.
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

(Ed. Note: The combat Veterans of WWII certainly left behind Footprints on the Sands of time).

8-21-03

To: All in attendance at our reunion and to those like myself who cold not attend.

Other than my 82 years if have no real excuse for not being there. Please express my deep regrets to all my "Buddies".

It seems that Bismarck moves farther away on the map when I entertain making the trip. I know this is a pretty "weak" excuse, but its all true in my mind.

To drive up and back is a real chore any more having done it a couple times-I know.

I have almost written off ever flying for reasons known to all who still "must" fly.

Trains don't connect with our reunion location anymore.

This leaves walking and as you can see-I have less than 30 days right now to make it, and my feet hurt already.

Maybe I can find a way next year. You can bet I will be searching for one.

My best to each and every old "dogface" remaining and give a toast to all of us who just couldn't "make it" this year.

All my best

Paul H. Longabereer
507 Groline Avenue
Williamstown, WV 26187-1417
Sgt. Major HQ. 2nd Bn.

.....
8-6-03

Frank Eide

C/O 164th Infantry Association

Bismarck, ND 58502-1111

Dear Mr. Eide,

I learned from a member of the 164th Infantry Association that the 164th was still meeting. As I was a member of 164th, I would like to join the Association and be a part of the organization. I went with Company "D" from Rugby.

If you would, please send me the information Re: memberships and the upcoming reunion-Sept. 19,20,21-at Bismarck-Ramkota Inn.

Respectfully,

Walter V. Johnson
704 2nd Ave. SE. #4
Rugby, ND 58368

Continued on pg 14

.....
"A lie can get halfway around the world before the truth gets its boots on".

James Callaghan
Britain Prime Minister 1976-1979

Wednesday the 30th

Merrill's Marauders

After receiving my 164 News, the write up about the Merrill's Marauders, I have a few things to add. We had Jap interpreters from the United States and they done a very good job questioning the Japs that we captured, I am not going to say how they got the info, "but after they questioned those Japs, it was something else", how those enemies looked

Now I have going to the Merrill's Marauders reunion down in Nevada, at Laughlin, we used to get at least 25 to 30 M.M. I was there two years ago and we only had "10 members". I guess our numbers are dying off. If any of you guys want to go, contact Ervin A. Matthis, 1908 Ernest Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278.

John G. Holt
1 2nd St. Apt. 5-301
Fargo, ND 58103

.....
Aug. 15, 2003

Hello Ben,

On that list of men who went from 164th to the Merrill's Marauders, I did not see Pvt. Harold Beck's name?

I met Beck in Fort Ord. He drove up to Headquarters Co. in a new Cadillac convertible with a blonde and he asked me if this was the 164th, and I said yes. He said he was staying at a motel & would return tomorrow. He returned alone.

On Guadalcanal he was Major Ordahl's driver. They came up to our observation post on the Matanikau and the Major told Beck to go back to Marine Hdqts., and get him some sandwiches. Major went on foot to see how the troops were doing. An hour or so later Beck returned with the sandwiches, where is the Major? I told him I didn't know he's not here, lets eat the sandwiches. Later the Major returned and asked Beck where is my sandwich? They ate them. Crook, here's the crumbs. Get in the back seat, I'll drive!

Next time I saw Beck, he was in Fiji signing up to go with Merrill's Marauders.

Enclosed is a check for dues etc.

Sorry I won't be able to get back for the reunion. Have a good time!

Yours,

Neil Tennyson
18425 Randolph Avenue
Northridge, CA 91325

P.S. Say Hello to my old buddy Jim Fenelon!!

(Ed. Note from Jim Fenelon: Hi "Slug" Tennyson. I remember Harold Beck very well. Beck was one of the replacements sent to the 164th Infantry at Fort Ord, California. The rumor was that Beck had been a boxer in the Infantry Division he was in, before being transferred to the 164th. I recall an incident when Beck was driver for Major Ordahl just below Matanikau Ridge. A wide spot in the jeep path appeared to have a firm surface but Beck suspected it was a large mud hole and was going to drive around the suspicious spot. Ordahl disagreed and ordered Beck to drive on, well Beck was right and the jeep was in jungle mud, to the point that it was flowing into the jeep. Beck was ordered out of the jeep and to get some one to pull the jeep and Ordahl out of the mud. Beck took his time getting help. Ordahl finally had to climb out of the jeep into the mud. I think a new driver was assigned to the Major.)

August 24, 2003

To the Editor of the 164th Infantry News,

I am sorry to inform you of the death of my father, Joseph F. Dest. He passed away on May 30, 2003 in New Haven, CT. He had been hospitalized for three months prior to his death with multiple medical problems and complications.

During his last three months he reminisced a lot about his Army years and his involvement with the 164th Infantry. He entered the Army in March of 1943 and was called up to service with the 164th Infantry and served in the South Pacific for 33 months. He was proud to have served his country. He always enjoyed and looked forward to the 164th Infantry Reunion and keeping in contact with his fellow comrades.

My father would want all of his Army buddies to know of his passing and my family sends our best wishes and regards to each and every one of you. We miss him dearly and he is forever in our hearts.

Sincerely,

Vanna M. Dest
768 Pine Rock Avenue
Hamden, CT 06514

(Ed. Note: Joe Dest was a faithful member of the 164th Association and traveled many miles from his home in Hamden, CT. to attend the reunions. Joe liked to slip away and participate in the Indian Casino activities. Joe rest easy. We will miss you).

.....
September 7, 2003

Dear Jim,

When I came home from a long trip last week there was, of course, a pile of mail — most of it useless throwaways. There also was one shining gem - an oh-so-poignant eulogy to her father from Brooks Connolly Hutton. And she thanked me for my small contribution to Jack's memory. Thank you for publishing it. As a result, between you and Brooks I now have a much stronger appreciation for what kind of guy Jack Connolly turned out to be. Much to be admired. All to often in our lives old comrades simply fall from sight forever.

Attached is a short piece that I've written for your consideration. Probably your unit as well benefited from the group of last minute replacements to the 164th from 35th Infantry Division units.

I don't know what admonitions were given to the Co of M/137 when he was levied to provide sixteen enlisted men of various ranks. I do know that he gave up his best platoon sergeant, his best machine gun Section Sergeant, and three excellent experienced squad leaders. The privates were not his best that's true. But three of them were killed in action; one being awarded the Distinguished Service Cross in the process. A good contribution to M/164 and Americal Division. I write about them in this piece.

In our months and years with the 164th we Kansans came to gain a strong appreciation for all things North Dakota - particularly Grand Forks (home for M/164) its people and its environs. Hey, one of the guys knew Peggy Lee. And - in those countless bull sessions of our - the North Dakotans got

pretty good dose of our Kansas stories as well. We were brothers.

Oh, and lest I forget. For me, Jack Connolly's pictures were particularly memorable. Most of the "characters" shown were fellow members of "M" Company's First Platoon - Jack's platoon - my everyday buddies. Somehow I don't appear. Might have been on one of my three malaria sojourns back at the tent hospital. Our December/January on that quiet jungle defense line near the airport exposed us all - and most of us did get malaria. By then the First Marine Division - also malaria laden - was gone and the Army was running the show.

Thank you for the 164th Newsletter. Every issue is a pleasure.

All the best,

Richard R. Stevens, Ph.D.

2400 Stannye Court

Louisville, KY 40222-6334

.....
To 164th Infantry Association

Greeting to the 164th Association. I know this is late but I was hoping I would be able to attend. Maybe next year. Due to health problems with wife and myself we cannot travel alone. We really enjoyed last year visiting with friends. Greet each and everyone from me. Then the last day when I fell and fractured my hip and spent one week in the Bismarck hospital. The care was excellent that we got from all the doctors and nurses and all the hospital personnel. The people in charge of the 164th Association do a wonderful job. The wife and I thank you for that. Keep up the good work.

You're all in our prayers

Edwin J. Kjelstrom, CWO2 Retired

124 9th Street SE

Rugby, ND 58368-2207

.....
To Jim Fenelon:

Jim, I read with interest your very good article on the trip from Devils Lake N.D. to Camp Claiborne, but one correction should be made. The Medical Detachment did have an Ambulance that made the trip. It was driven by George Stewart and I. We had with us Eugene Carroll who transferred from Company K to the Medics just before the trip and had some experience in first aid. He spent most of his time on a litter hung in the ambulance and with all the blankets we had around him. I cannot remember how we got the ambulance, but it just turned up one day. It may have come from Enderlin where the Medics were, but I do not know and unfortunately both George and Gene have answered the "Last Roll Call". We were next to the last vehicle in the convoy, just in front of the mechanics unit. That's all. Just to get the record straight.

I am sure happy that we have email capability at headquarters and hope that you soon will have it at your office.

Sincerely,

Lyle Mollet - Med. Detachment

(Ed. Note: Thanks for the additional information about the Long Cold Ride, Vol. 43, No. 1, March 2003. Mollet was there any need to set up Pro-Stations at the overnight stops on the convoy going south).

Continued From pg 7

Our president asked our secretary treasurer for a report:

Mr. Kemp covered the annual financial report. (This is printed in the Newsletter in full text) Membership, last year we had 608 and this year our membership is 549. 48 names were read at last roll call. We lost a total of 87 members over the past year. We have 424 members and 125 associate members.

Reunion:

We had 122 registered at the reunion. 66 members, 56 associate members and guests. We had 144 at last years reunion. 550 reunion letters were sent out. 346 replied and 204 failed to answer the reunion letter. This means less people purchased raffle tickets and that monies is how reunion registrations costs are kept down.

Veterans Cemetery: 2,180 are currently interned at the cemetery, 290 were interned in calendar year 2002 and it looks like we will break that number this year. The grant monies that the cemetery was counting on - they, the Federal Government changed priorities, North Dakota was number 3, we are now number 39 out of 40 cemeteries that have applied for grant money.

Our president stated that Eric E. Nelson, of Turtle Lake, North Dakota, the son of Thurston Nelson, who was with the 164 in WWII, Korean War and Vietnam. Eric will be interviewing you and also taking pictures/video's of the reunion. These videos will be for sale. Details will be furnished in the newsletter on how you can obtain a video.

Our president stated that he would like to thank the following people:

Jim Fenelon for the outstanding job he has done on the newsletter.

The gals from the Bismarck Business Bureau for their help.

Col. Allen W. Schuldt and Warren Ventsch for their display.

Gregory Heinz for his 164 and military display.

Ed Mulligan of Detroit Lakes for his Guadalcanal display.

Thanks to my team for helping put this reunion together; Bernie Wagner, Don Robinson, Vern Fetch, Neyl McClure, Shirley Olgeirson and Ben Kemp.

President Eide asked if there were any more new business. Request a motion for adjournment, motion was made and seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 1215 hours, 20 September 2003.

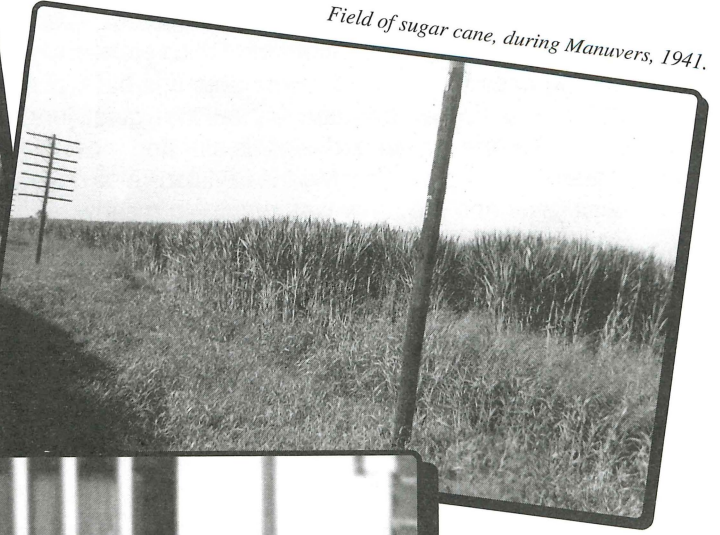
Respectfully submitted by Ben Kemp, Secretary/Treasurer

A memorial service was conducted prior to the meeting by Father William A. Rushford. Colors were presented by members of the North Dakota Army National Guard. 48 names were read by Shirley Olgeirson for the last roll call. As each name was read a candle was extinguished by Don Robinson and a bell was rung by Bernard A. Wagner. Sgt. Lynne Berce, 188th Army Band sang "How Great Thou Art" and "The Lord's Prayer". Taps were played by Ssg. Brian Berg of the 188th Army Band.

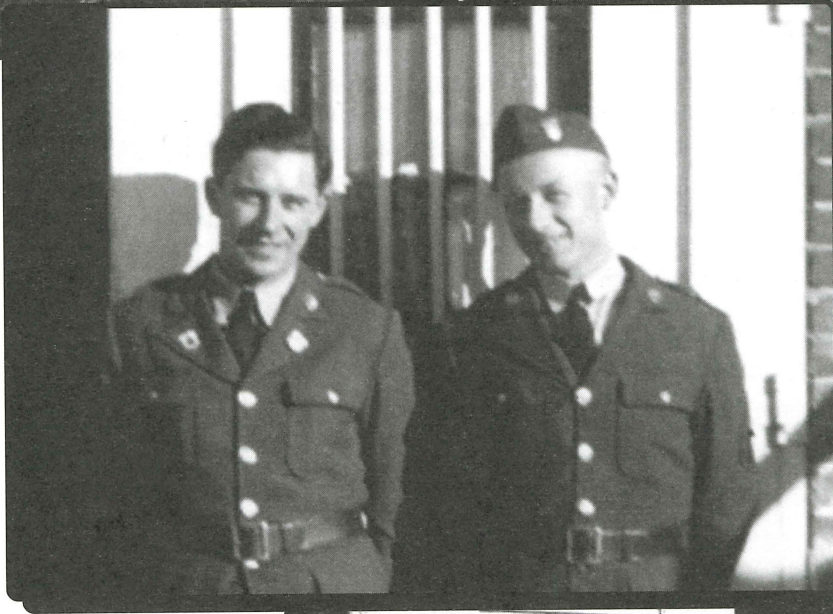
Ellensburg, Wash. 1942
Barrocks & Hdg



Field of sugar cane, during Manuvers, 1941.



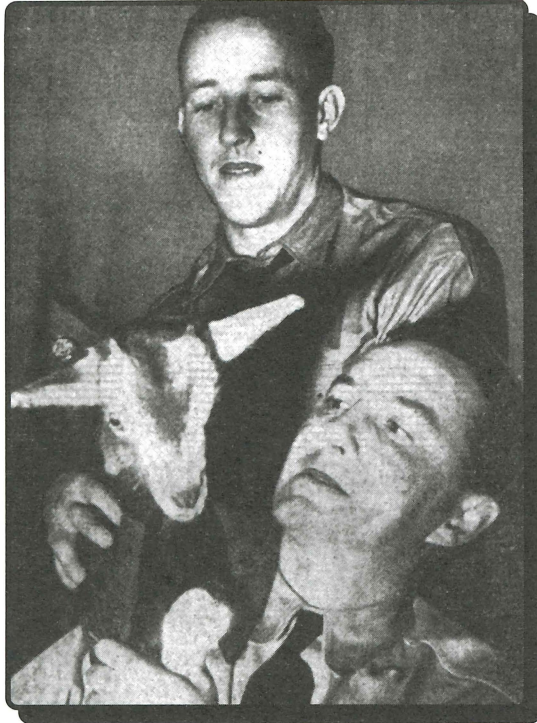
Landowski-Schultz
Ellensburg, Wash



John Landowski, Kathleen Peterson
Mildred & Clarence Schultz Ellensburg, Wash.

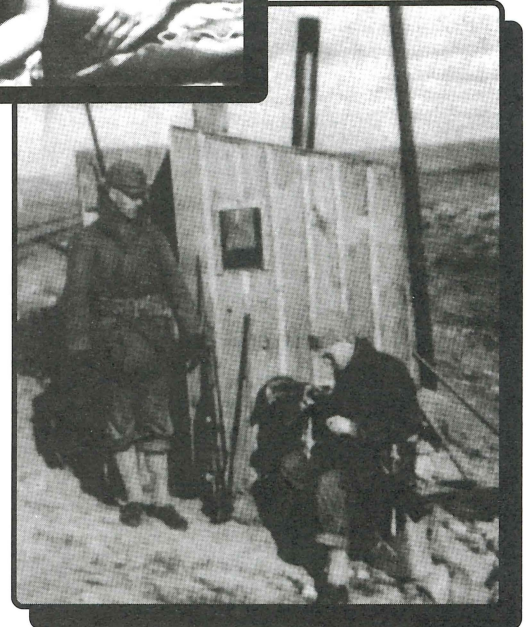
Landowski - Kathleen
She's Still on a farm at Ellensburg, Wash. John Spends her winters in Hawai

Just a Kid Under Wraps, But He's Soldiers Mascot



It was the army, not the navy, goat that went through Minneapolis. The blanketed animal - just a kid - is Harvey, the mascot of anti-tank company, 164th infantry, of Harvey ND, With him are Frank Glaser, seated, and Miland Pederson. The company is on its way to Camp Claiborne, La. - (Staff Photo.)

(The goat Harvey was led on many regimental parades in Camp Claiborne, La - 1944)



*Field Exercise Camp Claiborne, LA
Probable Rife-range firing.*

Well, Well, Well! Would you believe your editor came by some pictures from one of your old buddies, i.e. Ralph H. Oehlke of Anti-tank Co., Kathryn, ND. The one showing two GI's guarding bridges at Pasco, Washington, 1942 are standing Ted Ophang, McVile, ND and sitting is Roman Jalaginski, Minnesota, but how many of you can name properly the two pictured together in the other picture? We'll even state they worked in a store and also in a restaurant near the 164th Inf. Hq. on FIJI in SUVA. let's hear from you on this one. I'm certain many are the memories even if nothing more than a dream at the time, so let's hear from you and we'll let you all know in the September issue. What Say?

Editor Washington

There is no death only a change of worlds

Seattle Dwamish



Lt. Walker taking lessons how to clean a burner for the field range.

164th Infantry 58th Reunion 1921 September 2003

Ramkota Hotel Bismarck, ND

Financial Statement

Income

Registration \$6,235.00
 Sale of Raffle Tickets \$3,280.00
 Sale of Tickets for Door Prize, 164
 Books and 164 Bumper Sticker \$ 658.00
 Cash Returned \$ 100.00
 Interest Earned (Check Book) \$.18
Total \$10,283.18

Additional Income

2004 Dues \$1,680.00
 Newsletter Donations \$4,364.00
Total \$6,044.00

Grand Total \$16,317.18

Expenses/Ramkota Hotel

Food \$4,418.30
 Gratuity \$ 662.74
 Taxes \$ 381.99
 Keg of Beer \$ 200.00
 Beer/Pop \$ 19.25
 Audio/Visual Equip. \$ 110.00
 Room Rental \$ 158.40
Total \$5,950.68

Misc. Expenses

Convention Center \$110.50
 Moving Display \$ 226.50
 Roses \$255.70
 Printing Mats \$839.94
 Army Bank \$250.00
 164 Drawing \$164.00

164 Drawing \$164.00
 McClure (Misc. Supply) \$ 7.28
 Helping Hand Sec \$ 11.50
 Supplies/Computer \$ 84.95
 Wal-Mart Off Supplies \$ 31.74
 Bank Svc Charge \$ 10.03
 Cash (Start Monies) \$100.00
 Registration Refund \$ 50.00
 Father Rushford \$ 50.00
Total \$2,560.14

Expenses Paid out of the Association's Checking Account

Reunion Meeting Lunches \$149.49
 American Legion (Flag Pam) \$ 50.53
 Historic Aviation (Door Prize) \$ 79.90
 City of Bismarck (Raffle Permit) \$ 25.00
 Stamps \$222.00
 Jerry Lantz (Printing Raffle Tickets, \$300.00
 Reunion Letters, Memorial Svc. Pam)
 Office Depot (Name Badges) \$ 97.57
Total \$924.49

Total Expense

Ramkota \$5,950.68
 Misc. Expense \$2,560.14
 Association Paid \$ 924.49

Grand Total \$9,435.31

Reunion income (Does not include dues & newsletter donations)

Reunion Income \$10,273.18
 Reunion Cost \$ 9,435.31
 Reunion Profits \$ 837.87

164TH INFANTRY FOUNDATION

Any individual, corporation or company that is planning to make a contribution to the 16th Infantry Scholarship may send it to the 164th Infantry Foundation, attn: Milt Kane, 3110 17th Street South, Fargo, ND 58103-5915, tel. 701-293-6920. All gifts, donations or contributions made to the 164th Infantry Scholarship Fund are tax deductible as the organization is incorporated and has received the designation as a 501-C.3, a non-profit educational corporation. When making a gift or contribution the donor can make it in the memory of any individual they wish to honor. All the names of person providing a gift will be listed in the 164th Infantry Scholarship Fund.

REUNION TAPES

A video tape (VHS tape) of major activities of the Bismarck Sept 19-20-21 reunion available. Cost \$20 + \$5.00 M/H. 6 weeks delivery. Order from Eric Nelson, P.O. Box 478, Turtle Lake, ND 5857 . Telephone 701-448-2000.

(Ed. Note: Eric is the son of Thurston Nelson, L Company. Eric is an associate member. While attending the reunion in Bismarck, Eric Nelson interviewed and video taped 20 members of the 164th that were with the regiment in WWII. Nelson's action will provide a living history of individual serving in the 164th in WWII. Nelson plans on contacting other members of the 164th for WWII experiences. This a great project and will very valuable in preserving of the 164th Infantry. Eric Nelson great job. Thanks.)

Personnel Attending the 58th Annual 164th Reunion

In Bismarck, North Dakota on 19,20 & 21 September 2003 (by unit)

164th Infantry Regimental Headquarters Company

Donald Eichelberger Sharpsville, PA
Wallace J. Starkenberg Long Beach, CA
Raymond F. Sinkbell Medicine Lodge, KS
Roy Fries Warren, MI
Doug Burtell Bowman, ND
Gerald M. Skogley Bismarck, ND
Frank R. Eide Bismarck, ND

164th Infantry Regiment, Service Company

Vernon F. Fetch Bismarck, ND
John A. Kurtz Havre, MT
Cliff Ottinger Corvallis, MT
Kenneth B. Shaver East Bethel, MN
Bruce Hagen Bismarck, ND
James M. Fenelon Marshalltown, IA
Lester G. Wichmann Minneapolis, MN

164th Infantry Regiment Medics

Gerald Sanderson Willow City, ND
Ed Mulligan Detroit Lakes, MN

164th Infantry Regiment Anti-Tank Company

Lewis F. Baumann Felton, MO
John L. Strauss ND Vets Home Lisbon, ND
Albert Olenberger Rapid City, SD
Ruth Myhre Devils Lake, ND
Charles H. Walker Pembina, ND
Ralph H. Oehkle Kathryn, ND
Pearl H. Oehkle Kathryn, ND

164th Infantry Regimental Band

Ralph H. Oehkle Kathryn, ND (Bass Horn)

164th Infantry Regimental, Headquarters

Company 1st Battalion

Wendell W. Wichmann Cockeysville, MD
Roger B. Fuller Middleport, NY
Ray Farrow Cavalier, ND
Charles H. Walker Pembina, ND

Company A

Joseph Castagneto Lincoln, AL
Nickole Castagneto Billings, MT
Norman Castagneto Wildomar, CA
Robert Shirley Bismarck, ND
Robert & Joni Shine Londonderry, NH
William E. Dickerson North Canton, OH
Robert W. Ventsch Valley City, ND
Robert Stevens Watford City, ND
Wendell W. Wichmann Cockeysville, MD

Company B

Horace F. Nearhood Toledo, OH
William J. Hagen Moorhead, MN
Orlyen O. Stensgard Fargo, ND
Robert M. Carr Oakland, CA
Raymond D. Conlon Minto, ND
Charles H. Walker Pembina, ND
Russ Elvrum Washburn, ND
Donald L. Wirtz Detroit Lakes, MN
Lester G. Wichmann Minneapolis, MN
Dorothy Kjera Maxbass, ND

Company C

Treumann Lykken Grand Forks, ND

Company D

Wendell W. Wichmann Cockeysville, MD
Edith I. Tuff Fargo, ND
Vincent R. "Swede" Clauson St. Paul, MN
Douglas F. McMahon Minot, ND
Donald L. Monger Rugby, ND
Joe Poleschook Max, ND
Albert Martin Kief, ND
Robert D. Amstrup Bismarck, ND
Clement J. Fox Felton, ND

164th Infantry Regimental Headquarters

Company 2nd Battalion

Louis J. Hanson Jamestown, ND
Raymond F. Sinkbell Medicine Lodge, KS
Charles H. Walker Pembina, ND

Company E

Louis J. Hanson Jamestown, ND
Earl L. "Red" Cherrey Fairview, MT
Charlene M. Tittsworth Miles City, MT
Charles H. Walker Pembina, ND
Betty Anderson West Fargo, ND
Hunter S. Smith Williston, ND
Elva M. Smith Williston, ND
Charlotte J. Flexhaug Williston, ND

Company F

Bernard A. Wagner Valley City, ND
George Llaughlin
Rudolph Ednardsen Detroit Lakes, MN

Company G

Bernard A. Wagner Valley City, ND
Don Robinson Bismarck, ND
Ben Glatt Bismarck, ND
Vince Olson Valley City, ND
Hamlin L. Kjelland Gig Harbor, WA
Warren C. Griffin Valley City, ND

Company H

Albert F. Wiest Olympia, WA
Richard C. Wiest Washington, DC (Son of Al Wiest)

164th Regimental Headquarters

Company 3rd Battalion

Wallace J. Starkenberg Long Beach, CA
Merrit O. Starkenberg Edgeley, ND

Company I

None

Company K

Neyl "Mac" McClure Bismarck, ND
Harry Dolyniuk Thomson, GA

Company L

Alvin Tollefsrud Mayville, ND
Eric E. Nelson Turtle Lake, ND
(Son of Thurston Nelson)

Company M

William J. Tucker Edmond, OK
Albert F. Wiest Olympia, WA
Leroy Hamre Dickinson, ND
Richards C. Wiest Washington, DC
(Son of Al Wiest)

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS, 164TH INFANTRY
APO # 716 .

WJM/lw

30 March 1945

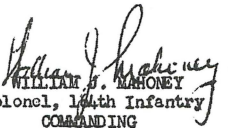
SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : All Officers and Enlisted Men of the 164 Regimental Combat Team,
APO #716.

1. During the period of 28 January 1945 to 24 March 1945 the 164 RCT was engaged in active combat operations on the Island of Leyte, Philippine Archipelago. These operations were undertaken quickly and efficiently despite the fact that much of our equipment and necessary property was still aboard the ships that carried us to this island. Nevertheless, the Combat Team was quickly assembled in the Ormoc Valley, and active patrolling followed by much larger scale operations against the enemy were launched aggressively. The enemy was driven out of the Ormoc Valley and forced into a pocket of resistance on the Western edge of the Island where he was pounded unmercifully by our artillery and mortars.

2. Throughout the period of this operation we were operating initially against disorganized groups of the enemy but later encountered well organized and stubbornly resisting Japanese. There were times then when the situation was most trying, to say the least. Each and everyone of you were trying to assess a condition that all came about when the tactical situation became most difficult. We were then operating along extended supply lines and on disproportionately large frontages. Our supply lines were under continual harassment by the enemy and our units were fired upon from all directions. One day our elements would be fighting East and the very next day they would be fighting back West again. Yet, despite all of these attendant difficulties we broke the back of some of the toughest Japanese resistance yet encountered by this team. We ran up a grand total of 2010 Japanese killed and 18 prisoners of war, which is indeed a record to be jealously proud of forever.

3. Each officer and enlisted man has clearly demonstrated such high devotion to duty, courage, initiative and resourcefulness in this campaign that I would be remiss in my duties if I failed to commend you for the fine accomplishment of a most difficult mission. We have maintained an enviable reputation throughout the Americal Division, and we have been subject of warm praise by higher headquarters. I am indeed very proud to be in command of such a fine combat team, which I know will continue to set the highest standards of combat performance no matter what the mission may be.


WILLIAM J. MAHONEY
Colonel, 164th Infantry
COMMANDING

R E S T R I C T E D

Never trouble tell trouble troubles you

English Proverb

DUES

To save the Association funds mail in your 164th Association dues for year 2004 before January 1st. Be sure to include your 2003 dues if you have not sent them in. if you have moved forward your correct mailing address.

Thanks

Ben Kemp S/T

Covetousness is the greatest of all monsters as well other roots of all evil

William Penn

Dues

2004 Dues are soon due

Just a reminder that you can pay your 2004 dues now and save the association the cost of sending you a notice at the end of the year. Dues are still ten dollars (\$10.00) for one year. You get three newsletters per year, which cost \$6.00 per copy. (\$18.00) It's a good deal.

Ben Kemp

S/T

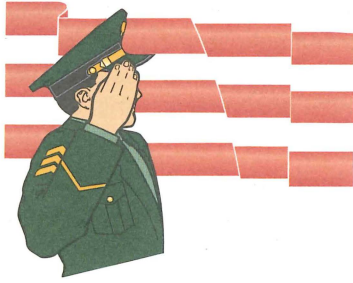
Winners at the 164th Infantry Association's 58th Annual Reunion at Bismarck, North Dakota
The drawings were held at the Ramkota Hotel on 20 September 2003 during the Banquet.

Ralph H. Oehlke	Kathryn, ND	\$164.00
Owen C. Wallace	Fessenden, ND	\$164.00
Frederick J. Siems	Sierra Vista, AZ	\$164.00

The Winner of the Door Prize was Vern Fetch of Bismarck, ND. Door Prize was a 1/78 Scale of Guadalcanal and the Book, Guadalcanal.



Last Roll Call

**Harold P. Aarhus**

Crockett, CA
WWII

Walter R. Abbott

New Orleans, LA
WWII

Jesus E. Avila

Long Beach, CA
WWII

Orvel G. Baldwin

Carrington, ND
Korean War

Rudson B. Bellinger

Dalton, MA
WWII

John A. Bergh

Nokomis, FL
WWII

Clarence O. Blecha

Grand Forks, ND
WWII

Allen "Bud" Brown

Porterville, CA
WWII

John Clarys

Menoken, ND
WWII

Paul M. Clemens

Chico, TX
WWII

Joseph F. Dest

Hamden, CT
WWII

Leonard H. Drabus

Harvey, ND

Knute A. Fosaaen Sr.

Jacksonville, FL

WWII

Sheldon Frost

Bakersfield, CA

Jerome D. Gazler

Chicago, IL
WWII

Byron Gilbertson

Killdeer, ND
WWII

Lester R. Grue

Newbury Park, CA
WWII

Ernest H. Haykel

Minot, ND

Orville Holtan

Bismarck, ND
WWII

Arvid C. Honsvall

Golden Valley, MN
WWII

Donald E. Hoppe

Santa Rosa, CA
WWII/Korean War

Joseph L. Juen

Oak Park Hts, MN

James M. Klink

Burnsville, MN

Charles Kretchum

West Newport, PA

James Lebus

Audubon, MN

Julean Lee

Fargo, ND
WWII

Joseph L. Moen

Crookston, MN
WWII

William Nero

Bottineau, ND
WWII

Robert J. Olson

Nixa, MO
WWII

Russell W. Olson

Harvey, ND
WWII

Ben Osborne

Ponsford, MN
WWII

Benjamin Parkos

Fargo, ND
WWII

William Pautzke

Minot, ND
WWII

Ted Peterson

WWII

Wallace Pfaff

Valley City, ND
WWII

William Reem

Atkin, MN
WWII

Myles L. Rivard

Taylor Falls, MN
WWII

Juan S. Rodriguez

San Marco, TX
WWII

John L. Samson

Cavalier, ND
WWII

Raymond L. Sawyer

Brooklyn Ctr, MN
WWII

Clarence G. Schultz

Harvey, ND
WWII/Korean War

Milton C. Shedd

Newport Beach, CA
WWII

LeRoy E. Smith

Duluth, GA
WWII

Donald J. Smock

Evansdale, IA
WWII

John B. Vaneedenburg

Monument, CO
WWII

Clifford J. Weber

Lisbon, ND
WWII

Eldred E. "Red" Welch

Bismarck, ND
WWII

Harold Ziesche

Ocean Park, WA
WWII

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

*Many of the 164th
members are having very
serious health problems.
Throw in an extra prayer for
your old buddies and their
wonderful companions.*



164TH SCHOLARSHIP

Dear Jim,

I would like to address all members of the 164th Infantry Association; about the "revival" of your scholarship fund. A three-member committee has been formed to select qualified candidates for our scholarships. These scholarships will be available to junior/senior college level 'history majors'; with a competitive researched essay on the history and campaigns of the 164th Infantry Regiment. We are hopeful that this will keep the accomplishments of the 164th Infantry remembered in our Military history and the school classrooms of the future.

I took a WWII History class at one of North Dakotas Universities in 1996. I had a detailed discussion with the History Professor (Ph.D.), on battles of the South Pacific. He was unaware that any army units fought on the islands, and that the Marines were always the victors. He also informed me that there wasn't any military action on Bougainville Island, either.

After, I shared some of my books, and news articles, on the 164th history with him, he was impressed and dumbfounded. He'd never been aware of these military facts during his education.

How was he to teach this information to others, without the information himself?

If you find it in your hearts to contribute to the scholarship fund, please send your "tax deductible" gift to:

Milton Kane
3110 17th Street South
Fargo, ND 58103

Je Suis Pret,
Warren Ventsch
Son of Erwin A. Ventsch (deceased), Co. A
P.O. Box 515
Valley City, ND 58072-0515

164TH REUNION

Valley City, ND
Dates Sept - 17-18-19, 2004
Motels: AmericInn - Phone 701-845-5551
Super 8 Motel - Phone 701-845-1140
Wagon Wheel Inn and Suites - Phone 701-845-5333
Airports:
Fargo
Jamestown

If we know your arrival time we can arrange transportation to our reunion and return you to your airport at the conclusion of the Reunion. Transportation will be available for you from Motels to the Reunion Hdqts. if need be.

Reunion Sec. Pat Drong, P.O. Box 192, Sanborn, ND 58480, telephone - 701-646-6561.

*Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player,
that struts and frets his hour upon the stage,
and then is heard no more.
It is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,
signifying nothing.*

— William Shakespeare
Macbeth, Act V, scene v

Presidents report: Dated 21 Sept 03

Thank you for selecting me as your President for the year 2003 & 2004 at our Reunion in Bismarck.

I want to commend the reunion committee for hosting an outstanding Reunion.

As you probably know the Reunion for 2004 will be held in Valley City, ND on Sept 17-18-19, 2004.

I hope your schedule will allow you to join us in Valley City. I will assure you that the Valley City Reunion Committee will be planning an enjoyable weekend. The North Dakota Army National Guard Bank has our Reunion on their schedule and we will include them in a lot of our activities. Our Reunion Secretary is Pat Drong, Box 192, Sanborn, ND 58480. Phone 701-646-6561.

"Bernie" Wagner

*Something has spoken to me in the night.
Burning the tapers of the waning year:
Something has spoken in the night.
And told me I shall die. I know not where.
Saying:
"To lose the earth you know, for greater knowing:
To lose the life you have, for greater life:
To leave the friends you loved, for greater loving:
To find a land more kind than home, more large than earth
Whereon the pillars of this earth are founded.
Toward which the conscience of the world is tending
A wind is rising, and the rivers flow."*

- Thomas Wolfe

In Pine Ridge Baptist Church

Devils Lake Soldiers Enjoy Singing Hymns

By MARION COLEMAN
Staff Writer, Chattanooga Times

With the Third Army in Louisiana—There's a little church away out on a dusty knoll about a thousand miles from nowhere. I went there to an all day singin' and dinner on the ground.

But it wasn't the regular kind of meetin'. It was one of the strangest I've ever seen. But it was one of the most inspiring ones too.

One hundred nineteen soldiers were bivouacked there—all boys of the 164th Infantry Service Company out of Devils Lake, N. D. And the good old white haired country preacher said, "Thar's God's house oyer thar, boys. Ain't no reason why God's boys cain't use it."

And God's boys did use it. I heard the singing before I could see inside. Across the door was "Pine Ridge Baptist Church" and when I looked inside, my emotions were all mixed up.

The rough board structure was full of boys. They weren't all dressed up and combed and brushed. Many were stripped to the waist and perspiration streamed down their sunburned backs.

Three were stretched out on the long wooden benches sleeping the sleep of the just. Others had their feet propped up on the backs of the seats or on the window sills. Several were writing letters.

But they were all singing. And the songs weren't ribald, either. They were singing "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" and "Shall We Gather at the River." One boy sat at the old tinkly piano and played the tunes. He wasn't a concert artist, but he had what it took to play for the boys to sing. When the boys hit the wrong note he stopped everything and made them do it right, pounding on the note until it satisfied him.

I did not have the slightest feeling of sacrilege. Those old dog-eared hymnbooks were never thumbed more reverently. Oh, they laughed and talked and yelled at one another between songs, and they looked a little sheepish when I slipped into the back of the church, but they didn't stop singing.

I thought, as I sat there, that the Master of Creation must surely look with favor on these hard workin', endurin', cussin', wheat growin' plainmen, and I had the feeling that He is going to sort of "look out after them".

Down in the field, Commanding officer "Bill" Smith was going about his business, unworried about the morale of his men . . . even if they do grumble their heads off during the week. A bunch of boys who could sing "Sweet Hour o.

Prayer" like that shouldn't be worried about.

Sgt. Carl Winnegge looked after his machines and spliced wires and grinned to himself when the boys sang "Jesus Loves Me."

"Dinner on the ground" was boiling in the mess tent, and the cook stirred and did his share of the grinning when the boys sang "I'm Feasting on the Manna from a Bountiful Supply."

And I—never will I be able to hear "Amazing Grace" without thinking of that old country church full of soldier boys, and adding the line "How sweet the sound".

Devils Lake Soldiers Enjoy Singing Hymns

(Ed. Note: The reporter writing this story was a beautiful reporter from the Chattanooga Times Newspaper. The Service Company was bivouacked around the church during the Louisiana war games. There had been considerable beer consumption, had been poker games the night before the Sunday A.M. services. Several of the Service Company were asleep in the back row of pews in the church. When the minister started service the sleeping beauties were awakend and a made a dash for the door grabbing clothing to get dressed properly. Those that were asleep in the middle and front row with their clothes on stayed for the lengthy religious service and really suffered with a throbbing headache. Captain Art Timboe had the duty to accompany the beautiful reporter Marion Coleman to various mock battle scenes conducted during the Camp Claiborne, LA battle games. Very tough duty?.

164TH INFANTRY ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT FROM AUGUST 2002 THRU AUGUST 2003

SEPTEMBER 2002 C.D. BALANCE ----- \$20,946.39
AUGUST 2003 C.D. BALANCE ----- \$16,101.44

SEPTEMBER 2002 BANK STATEMENT BALANCE \$ 2,009.49
AUGUST 2003 BANK STATEMENT BALANCE \$ 8,229.14

MONTH	EXPENSES	INCOME	
30 SEPTEMBER 2002	\$1,257.40	\$ 1.94	
31 OCTOBER 2002	\$ 318.18	\$ 5,090.47	\$5,000.00 WAS TRANSFERRED FROM OUR C.D. ACCOUNT
30 NOVEMBER 2002	\$ 478.73	\$ 282.60	
31 DECEMBER 2	\$2,858.64	\$9,756.04	PRINTING NEWSLETTER INCOME REC'D FROM REUNION PLUS DUES & DONATIONS TO NEWSLTR
31 JANUARY 2003	\$ 490.91	\$ 2,367.81	INCOME FROM DUES
28 FEBRUARY 2003	NONE	\$ 291.57	
31 MARCH 2003	\$ 3,143.36	\$ 151.76	PRINTING NEWSLETTER
30 APRIL 2003	\$ 87.39	\$ 305.71	
31 MAY 2003	\$ 153.08	\$ 414.84	
30 JUNE 2003	\$ 805.51	\$ 110.98	
31 JULY 2003	\$ 706.17	\$ 323.92	
31 AUGUST 2003	\$ 2,580.93	\$ 2.30	PRINTING NEWSLETTER
TOTAL	\$12,880.29	\$14,099.94	DOES NOT INCLUDE THE \$5,000 FROM OUR C.D.

BANK STATEMENT BALANCE 30 AUG 03 \$8,229.14
C.D. BALANCE \$16,101.44 RATE OF INTEREST -1.35%
NET WORTH AS OF 30 AUG 03 \$24,330.58

FUNDS SPENT ON NEWSLETTER: \$8,737.00
DONATIONS TO THE NEWSLTR: \$5,219.50

I CERTIFY THAT THIS REPORT IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 AUGUST 2003.

BENNET J. KEMP
SECRETARY/TREASURER

AUDIT COMMITTEE APPROVAL () YES () NO

BY [Signature] DATE 9/24/03
BY [Signature] DATE 9-20-03
BY [Signature] DATE 9-20-03



Left to Right:

Joe Castagneto, Sgt. Major (retired). Joe was in A Company 164th, he joined the 164th on Fiji Islands, was wounded, and stayed in the army for 30 years. His son C.W. Lawrence is a helicopter pilot. Lawrence received his helicopter wings and his first salute from his father Master Sgt. Joe Castagneto, Fort Rucker Alabama. Lawrence saw duty in Vietnam flying a Huey gun shift providing support for ground troops.

L-R:

Bill Tucker, M Company, daughter Mary Drain. Bill was wounded on Guadalcanal, he is confined to a wheel chair. Mary Drain, his daughter drives the van from Chickasha, Oklahoma to the reunion.



THE 164TH INFANTRY NEWS

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2001-02 Association Officers are:

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Bismarck, ND*
- Vice President Ray Kreidlkamp: (701) 845-0799
Valley City, ND*
- Sec./Treas. Ben Kemp: (701) 222-4694
Bismarck, ND*
- Editor Jim Fenelon: (641) 752-9621
Marshalltown, IA*

164th Infantry News

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

EDITH I TUFF *
3111 BROADWAY APT 104
FARGO ND 58102-1400



*"The Ultimate Weapon" by: Charles N. Hunter
Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret.) • West Point • Merrills Marauders*