



VOLUME LXXXV Number NO 3

THE IVY LEAVES

Official Publication of the National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association

4th Infantry Division Again Deploying to Foreign Lands

■ 1918-1919, 1944-1945, 1950-1956, 1966-1970, 2003- ... Years in which the 4th Infantry Division has answered the call of our Commander in Chief and deployed to foreign lands to help liberate oppressed people and to defend our nation's freedom and ideals.

by Bob Babcock

In response to an order to deploy on 20 January 2003, the soldiers of the 4th Infantry Division sprang into action and began the complex mission of loading the most lethal weaponry and technology ever deployed in warfare onto ships to begin the movement to southwest Asia. When called on, they will be a key force in the drive to liberate the people of Iraq from the oppression of Saddam Hussein and eliminate the dictator from future threats to the world.

In less than 30 days after the alert, the

entire division, now known to the world as Task Force Ironhorse, completed the massive logistical task and their equipment was on the high seas, en route to southwest Asia. The soldiers will fly in a massive airlift to join their equipment. As this account was written, lead elements were on the ground in southwest Asia and the remainder of the 4th Infantry Division, along with supporting troops that comprise a force of over 35,000 soldiers, stood ready at Fort Hood, Fort Carson, and other posts to complete the personnel deployment and begin the lethal portion of the mission. As you would expect, specific plans for the mission are confidential.

I was fortunate to have been able to visit Fort Hood on February 11 and talk to some of the 4ID soldiers. We can rest assured that today's soldiers are even better and more

Please turn to **DEPLOY** on page 4



ABOVE: Motor pool, once full of vehicles, now stands empty.
RIGHT: CO of B/1-22 with guidon.



For My Father

by Karen, daughter of Irving Smolens

In July 1985, I visited Normandy with a 1D-day Veteran - my father. We walked the beaches, went to the bombed out bunkers of Pont du Hoc and saw the cliffs of Sword Beach. It was a beautiful, warm and sunny day. My father purchased a video camera for the trip and my mother filmed my dad walking up from the shore on Utah Beach. In 1985 he was in a polo shirt and chinos. A baseball cap replaced the helmet he wore on June 6, 1944 when at the age of 19 he landed on Utah Beach.

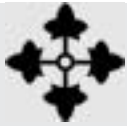
As we stood on the beach he told us how the landing craft had dropped him off in water over his head and how he had almost drowned.

As we stood on the beach he told us how the landing craft had dropped him off in water over his head and how he had almost drowned. He described side-stepping mines and ducking mortar fire as he made his way to shore. The only obstacles he faced

walking the beach in 1985 were a few sunbathers and children building sandcastles.

I had always known that my father fought in the Second World War. I also knew that he had been in the artillery and this was the reason for his hearing impairment. Since that time, he had gone to college, gotten married, raised a family and lived his life. On our visit to Normandy, I began to learn much more. We visited Ste. Mare Eglise and other villages and towns. Places that had once been vague images in Hollywood war movies were suddenly real life. We drove up the peninsula to Cherbourg a town I had always associated with the musical film, but a place that took on new meaning as my father described how his infantry division had

Please turn to **FATHER** on page 4



Last Hurrah

This will be the last edition of The Ivy Leaves with me as the editor. After nearly five years, I'm turning over the reins to Richard Taylor. He was with 4th Engineers in Germany and is a retired publisher/editor with 27 years experience.

There is an introductory profile on Richard elsewhere in this issue. It has been a rewarding experience taking what was a booklet and turning it into a full size 1st Class Magazine. I must admit, I'll miss the feeling of pride I always got when the finished product arrived in the mail. But I will not miss the amount of work it takes to put The Ivy Leaves together. And with my new job as Executive Director, my spare time has quickly been consumed by the requirements of that position.

So it was time to move on! I want to thank all of you who contributed articles, chapter reports, pictures and other materials for publication. Without your support, I would not have been successful.

June 2003 Deadline

Articles for the next issue are due May 1, 2003. Please use aliveat85@aol.com for all email submissions.

Steadfast and Loyal!

Greg Rollinger

On Track for Late March Delivery

World War II Yearbooks

by Bob Babcock

Almost 200 of you ordered the reprints of one or more of the five volumes of the 4th Infantry Division yearbooks that were produced at Camp Butner at the end of World War II. All orders received as of February 15 have been processed and are included in our order with the bookbinder. An invoice with the final price and expected delivery date will be mailed to you by early March. If you haven't already done so, please send your money for the books as soon as possible and double check to insure I have the correct mailing address for you. Books will not be mailed until your payment has been received.



National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association

Officers

Table listing officers and their contact information, including: Honorary Presidents (Gen. John W. Vessey, Jr., 1Sgt David H. Mc Nerney), President (Gerry W. Howard), Sr. Vice President (R. J. "Rick" Adams), Jr. Vice President (Raymond H. Dunkel), Jr. Vice President (Nathaniel "Bob" Gasset), Jr. Vice President (Roger S. Barton), Jr. Vice President (Scott Moffat), Jr. Vice President (Robert W. Krause), Executive Director (Gregory A. Rollinger), Treasurer (Wayne A. Brown), Assistant Treasurer (Nathaniel "Bob" Gasset), Registrar (Alexander Cooker), Secretary (Roy Surratt), Ivy Leaves Editor (Gregory A. Rollinger), W.W. II Historian (Richard A. Sover), Vietnam Historian/Nat'l Archivist (Robert O. Babcock), 2003 National Reunion Chairman (Gerry W. Howard), Scholarship Committee Chairman (Gerry W. Howard), Arlington Monument Fund (Gerry W. Howard), Advertising (Edward McEniry), Judge Advocate/Parliamentarian (John R. Barclay), Service Officer (Charles L. "Chuck" McKee), Chaplain (Rev. George W. Knapp), Publicity (Andy Jurcak), Sgt.-at-Arms (Joseph E. Motil).



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Contributions and suggestions are welcome and should be sent to Gregory A. Rollinger, Ivy Leaves Editor, 13507 Danube Lane, Rosemont, MN 55068 <g.rollinger@gte.net>. Deadline for submission is the first day of the month prior to publication.



Hello everyone! I hope this finds everyone happy and well! 2003 is off to a great start for our Association. We, the E board and other volunteers are busy making the Associations' plans and goals and general business happen.

Our first priority, all of us, the chapters as well as individuals, would be to support our 4th Infantry Division in any and every way we can. At this writing it is unclear just what our men and women will be doing "over there." Our hopes and prayers go out to all of them. Something tells me that the current soldiers of the 4th Infantry Division will uphold our motto "Steadfast and Loyal" with vigor and energy. God Speed!!!!

It is the E boards' opinion that we should go forward with Killeen/Ft. Hood for the Sept. meeting. Everybody please make your reservations now. This is a great chance for all of us to show support for the Division and the troops by having a high level of participation whether they are home or still deployed. Their families and support staff will still be at Ft. Hood. 2004 we will be going to Branson, Missouri for our meeting. Las Vegas seems to be the front runner for 2005. We will listen to their bid in September.

Mike May is working toward making our Association a non-profit corporation. Mike is a tireless worker. His contribution is greatly appreciated. Fred

...we need a new web master to handle our great home page. If any of you are capable or know a volunteer who is, please contact us at once.

Gould is working over our "paid for life" membership category. We hope to have it back in place in time for the national meeting in September. It sure makes this job easier when we have great support from individuals like our past president Fred.

Another piece of business is insuring our officers for liability. We are getting some prices now to make sure we get the best deal.

And of course we have a new *Ivy Leaves* editor. His biography appears in this *Ivy Leaves* and he is full of energy. Greg Rollinger has done such a wonderful job and we thank him for it.

Lastly, we need a new web master to handle our great home page. If any of you are capable or know a volunteer who is, please contact us at once.

Folks, it is my great honor and pleasure to work with and for you all. Fourthfully,

Gerry W. Howard, President
A-1-8 May 1969 - March 7, 1970



Dick Taylor is New Ivy Leaves Editor

Dick is a retired, 74-year-old Las Vegas resident who has volunteered to take on the assignment of Editor of *The Ivy Leaves*. Dick entered the U.S. Army near the beginning of the "Police Action" in Korea. He went through basic training at Fort Ord, California, was shipped to Ft. Benning where he was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division in S-1 of the 4th Engineer Combat Battalion.

His overseas assignment was a small German village east of Frankfurt, Germany where the Battalion took over the Hessen Homberg Kaserne (barracks) that had been badly damaged in the waning days of WWII.

Although he served in the Army for only two years, he says those years were very important to him, especially for the male bonding and camaraderie he experienced.

In private life, he worked in the hotel business for 20 years, was the owner of his own Burglar Alarm/Security business for 20 years and has 20 years experience in the publishing business.

Dick has been married for 45 years to Charlene, has two sons and two daughters.

He is excited to continue his journalism work with *The Ivy Leaves*.

Send articles for publication to:

Dick Taylor
Editor - The Ivy Leaves
P.O. Box 26565
Las Vegas, NV 89126-0565

MOVING?

Don't make us guess your new address!

Complete this form and mail it to the
Greg Rollinger, Executive Director
13507 Danube Ln
Rosemount, MN 55068-3395.



Name: _____

Old Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

New Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone _____ Effective Date: _____



COL Don Campbell speaks to members of his Raider Brigade Combat Team after their morning run on February 11.



LTC Mark Woempner, CO of 1-22, briefing his officers.

lethal than we were when we answered our call to duty in World War I, World War II, the Cold War, and Vietnam. The look of determination in the eyes of each officer, NCO, and soldier showed a group of American men and women that are dedicated to successfully completing the mission at hand. Early morning physical training saw the entire post filled with soldiers preparing their bodies for the grueling task ahead of them. A few soldiers were seen jogging down the street with gas masks on – a grim reminder that they face weapons unused on our division since World War I.



CSM Martinez of 1-22, talking to troops

A tour of the post revealed acres of motor pools, once filled with Bradley fighting vehicles and Abrams tanks, sitting empty. American flags were conspicuously sewn on the right shoulder of each soldier's uniform. And we will once again see the Ivy Leaf patch of the 4th Infantry Division proudly worn by a new generation of veterans – look for it as you watch news accounts over the next weeks and months. You will be proud to see our division once again in the forefront of a critical mission.

A rear detachment will remain at Fort Hood, serving as a contact point for the families who remain in the Killeen area and tending to other jobs as they wait for the return of the deployed division in the unknown future.

In a meeting with 4th Infantry Division Command Sergeant Major Charles Fuss, I assured him that we have literally hundreds

and thousands of veterans and families standing ready to support our soldiers and their families in any way that we can. As specific needs of the division are made known to us, we will make the information available to your chapter officers and national officers. A word of caution – be aware that bad guys are likely watching our web site and we must be aware of security considerations. As they said in World War II, "Loose lips sink ships." We never want to endanger our troops by being too free with information in public forums such as the internet.

Pray for our soldiers and our national leaders. Remember your days as a combat soldier or as a family member of a soldier and think of the type of support you needed. Letters from people who care are high on that list of needs. Soldiers love to hear from those veterans who built the noble history of the 4th Infantry Division that they are adding to. Every little show of support will be appreciated. Stay tuned – and listen to your chapter officers as specific support plans are built. Steadfast and Loyal!

When we reached the visitors' center, a worker explained that there were no graves for my father's buddies. This was because their bodies had never been recovered or identified; the reason their names were listed on the stone walls.

fought a bloody battle and liberated the town.

We visited the American Cemetery. This is one of the most beautiful and one of the saddest spots on earth. We walked along the tree-lined cliffs overlooking the English Channel. I was overwhelmed by the perfect rows of white crosses and the Stars of David for as far as the eye could see. My father looked for the graves of lost friends. He walked alone, he walked with us, said few words, bowed his head in silence. On the Wall of the Missing, in the rotunda at the front of the cemetery he read the names etched in the stone walls.

Until that day, I had not known that my father had been reassigned hours before the invasion was launched. This was when I learned that the gun battery that he had trained with, slept with, eaten with, played with for the months leading up to D-day had hit a mine on their way to shore. Every one of those men, his friends, had been killed. Blown up before they ever reached land. Their names were on the wall.

After we left the cemetery we drove slowly down the narrow roads, past the hedgerows, those famous mounds of earth and brush that have become a part of the historical narrative of the war. At some point, there was confusion, I really don't recall how it happened but my father became convinced that the men on the Wall of the Missing also had graves in the cemetery. He was adamant that we return the next day. We drove miles out of our way to return and speak to the people who work in the visitors' center and to locate names and graves for the thousands of visitors who visit the cemetery every year.

At this point I must make a confession. Our itinerary had called for a stop in

Bayeux to visit the cathedral and this detour was going to cost me my visit. We cut our time in Bayeux short in order to return to the cemetery before the visitors' center closed. At 31 years old I didn't get it. I became a petulant child who had not gotten her own way. I was clueless. Caught up in my own wants and desires, I was oblivious to what my father was feeling.

When we reached the visitors' center, a worker explained that there were no graves for my father's buddies. This was because their bodies had never been recovered or identified; the reason their names were listed on the stone walls.

A few years ago, *Saving Private Ryan*, a World War II film by Steven Spielberg, was released to great fanfare. I read about the realistic depiction of the battle scenes. I could not imagine that this film was going to show me anything I hadn't seen many times before in movies or heard about from my father.

What no one ever mentioned when discussing the film was the prologue. Finally, one Saturday afternoon I decided on the spur-of-the-moment to go alone and see it. Settling into my seat; I got my mind ready to face the onslaught of the battlefield.

Instead of a field of battle, I watched an older man walking through a cemetery with his family on a sunny summer day, looking for a grave. As I was confronted with the opening scene of the film, I began to cry and I could not stop. The face on the screen was no longer an actor but the face of my father in 1985. All those years later, I began to understand.

4th Inf. Div. Museum

Historic Camp Enari Flag Aquired



Mr. and Mrs. Richard K. Hussey, Sacramento, CA donate the Camp Enari flag. Photo taken in front of the VN diorama, 4ID Museum.

by Ceilia Stratton

The 4th Infantry Division Museum has acquired the last US flag to fly over Camp Enari, Vietnam. From August 1966 until April 1970, Camp Enari served as the Division's base camp in Pleiku Province in the Central Highlands of Vietnam. In April 1970 the Division relocated to Camp Radcliffe near An Khe as part of the stand down of the division and relocation to Fort Carson which occurred in Jan 1971.

In May 1970 LT George Furtado who was not a part of the 4th Infantry Division was driving through by Camp Enari which had already been turned over to the ARVN who had begun dismantling the large camp. LT Furtado noticed that the American flag was still flying in the

camp so he drove over, took down the flag, folded it, and brought it back home with him.

LT Furtado of Sacramento, CA kept the flag for over twenty years until he finally encountered a 4th Infantry Division Vietnam veteran, Richard Hussey also of Sacramento, CA. George Furtado gave the flag to Richard Hussey explaining the circumstances of how he had acquired it. Mr. Hussey felt that the flag belonged in the 4th Infantry Division Museum, so in the fall of 2002 Mr. Hussey and his wife drove from Sacramento CA to Fort Hood to present the flag to the museum.

The museum will display the flag in its Vietnam area of the gallery currently being renovated.

Resolutions Committee Update

By: Rick Adams

This will serve as notice to all Chapters that amendments or proposed changes to the National Constitution and Bylaws must be submitted to the National Resolutions Committee and ALL Chapters at least 60 days prior to the annual National Reunion.

At the 2002 National Reunion in Spokane, we took up several issues and the membership voted to incorporate certain changes and to further study and develop others. Each Chapter should have

received a revised copy, and minutes from the business meetings.

Issues pending for action by the Executive Board are: 1a) That the National 4th Infantry Division Association incorporate and retain it's 501 (c) (3) status. 1b) and subsequent to incorporation, that the association purchase Directors and Officers (D&O) insurance to indemnify its officers and directors, and pay their litigation expenses in the event of a suit or claim against them, or any of them, for acts or omissions in the course

and scope of their functions as officers and directors of the association. 2) Evaluate and recommend changes to the Paid-For-Life policy/program to ensure its long-term viability. 3) Place the remaining money now in the Arlington Monument Fund in an interest bearing account until such time as the Association can determine the best way and legalities for the use of these funds.

Respectfully Submitted, Rick Adams, National Resolutions Committee Chairman.

Chapter Reports



374th Radio Research Company (ASA) iFinder Chapter

by Steve Zawacki

We are all looking forward to the National reunion this year at Fort Hood. This will be the first time ever that alumni of the 374th RRC have had the opportunity to get together as a group. Three decades is too long between get-togethers!

We all mourn the passing of Roy Turcotte. Roy spent most of his 'Nam time with Det 1 (1st Brigade). The last time I spoke with Roy (who resided in Texas) he was looking forward to being at Fort Hood this September. He will be missed.

The recent deployment of the 4th Division to the Gulf brings home the seriousness of the situation. Our best wishes and prayers go out to all those deployed, especially to the members of the 104th MI Battalion – the successor unit to the 374th RRC (ASA).

A few more photos were recently added to the Chapter website (http://www.geocities.com/374th_rrc). Stop by – you might see a 30-year-old picture of yourself. Also, for those who have never seen a copy of the General Order awarding the Presidential Unit Citation to 1st Brigade and its subordinate units, this order is posted at the website – compliments of Roy Turcotte.

ARIZONA CHAPTER

by Bob Olson

The Arizona Chapter held their annual fall dinner at the Beefeaters restaurant in Phoenix on Nov 16th. In attendance were Rod and Nellie Rodriguez, Roy Agee, Gerry Burch, John and Sherry Barclay, Gary and Patricia Krek, Wayne and Lois Brown, Gerald and Marie Powell, Pablo Rael, Mike and Jane Irving, Ann Daeman, Alfred Velasquez, and Bob Olson. No date was set for next year's dinner but it will probably be at a different restaurant.

CAPITAL CHAPTER

by Roger S. Barton

The Capital Chapter is busy planning our Spring Reunion. At last year's Fall Reunion our members voted to hold the Spring Reunion in beautiful and historic Gettysburg Pennsylvania. The reunion will be held from May 30-31 at the BEST INN in downtown Gettysburg. The hotel is located at 301 Steinwehr Ave, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Room rates are \$83 + tax for Friday May 30th and Saturday May 31st. For those wishing to arrive early for some extra sight seeing time, rates for Monday through Thursday are \$60 + tax. Please make your room reservations directly with the hotel at 1-800-237-8466. Be sure to mention that you are with the 4th Infantry Division Reunion. Reservations must be made by April 30, 2003 to get these rates. Free deluxe Continental Breakfast is included and the hotel offers allergen-

free "Evergreen" rooms for those with allergies (you must request an Evergreen room when you make your reservations). The hotel is in the heart of the historic district and is within easy walking distance of most major attractions.

Our Saturday dinner will be held at the Herr Tavern & Publick House. Built in 1815 and used as the 1st Confederate hospital in Gettysburg it offers fine dining in a cozy and casual atmosphere. After dinner President Abraham Lincoln will address those in attendance. Mr. James A. Getty who operates The Battle Theatre in Gettysburg will perform as Mr. Lincoln...no, he will BECOME Mr. Lincoln and speak to the group. Those who saw him perform for us the last time we were in Gettysburg will verify that he does, in fact, become Abraham Lincoln.

Within easy walking distance of the hotel are:

The Lincoln Train Museum (425 Steinwehr) features model toy trains from the 1800's to the present day. There you can actually board the Lincoln Train and relive history as you travel to Gettysburg for the dedication of the new cemetery. As the countryside passes by, listen to the personal thoughts of President Lincoln preparing to deliver a "few appropriate remarks". A delightful experience in sight and sound!

The National Civil War Museum (297 Steinwehr) features over 30 separate scenes and 200 life-size action figures. History comes alive in the Battleroom Auditorium. The only digitally enhanced audiovisual presentation of its kind in the entire world. Life-size figures re-create Pickett's Charge and other Gettysburg highlights. See and hear the animated figure of President Lincoln present his Gettysburg Address at the National Cemetery. On most weekends there is a Living History Encampment in front of the wax museum featuring live re-enactors.

The Gettysburg National Park Visitor's Center and Cyclorama are directly across the street from the hotel.

Other "non military" attractions in the area include the Gettysburg Village Factory Stores and the newly opened Boyd's Bear Country featuring a 100,000 square foot barn packed full of Boyd's Bears, and a free museum that details the history of the Boyd's Collection.

We hope to see you in Gettysburg. All Capital Chapter members will receive a mailing for this reunion. Any other interested Association members can contact Capital Chapter Treasurer Roger Barton at 301-845-4168 or rogerb@xecu.net for details and registration forms.

CAROLINAS CHAPTER

by Rick Adams

Please welcome the following new chapter members: George Rocco, Mt Juliet, TN, C/4/42FA Vietnam 66-67, Ned Donaldson, Statesboro, GA, 704Mtn, Vietnam, Ian Jones, Cumming, GA, Vietnam 69-70, Lawrence Shell, Ringgold, GA 4th Engrs, Vietnam, and John Cole, Albany, GA, HHC, Vietnam. Thanks again to those who got their 2003 dues in early. We have several

that have not paid and are dropped.

Remember the Spring Reunion registration forms are now published in the "Ivy Leaves", look under Chapter Events to get your form and send it to me. The 2003 Spring Reunion will be in Columbia, South Carolina April 25-27. We have a number of issues pending with regard to getting some Highway's named for the 4ID, and a new slate of chapter officers to nominate. Also, we are expecting a big turn out of 1/10 Cavalry members who are joining us for the weekend.

Remember to bring your crafts and gifts for the raffle after the banquet on Saturday. This has been a great fundraiser and more than pays for the hospitality room.

The Chapter's 2003 Fall reunion is going to be held in the Tri-Cities, TN area, and hosted by Robert and Ester Gobble. Watch for details in future "Ivy Leaves".

Colorado Chapter

by Eugene F. Carter

Hello out there from Fort Carson, Colorado – the home of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team (but not for long). They will soon join the rest of the 4th Infantry Division in support of the war effort. Let me bring you up to date on our activities during the holiday period.

We recently honored one of our life members, E. W. "Smokey" Trammer at his home here in the Colorado Springs area with a Flames of Remembrance Ceremony due to his permanent departure to California. This article about Smokey is long overdue and was prompted by us for several rea-

Smokey with his 4th Infantry Division cake, presented to him at our Flame of Remembrance-ceremony-conducted-at-his-home-here-in-Colorado-Springs



Smokey is shown here with former president and current Secretary/Treasurer Vic Lopez, along with National Junior Vice President Bob Gassett, being presented with the book Phantom of Ben Het, a Tiffany style 4" h Inf Div plaque and a Freedom Eagle.

sons. You see Smokey is a WWII veteran and is perhaps our oldest member at 94 years young. Why? I thought you would never ask! Smokey was living in southeastern Nebraska in 1943 when the army drafted him at 35 years of age. Of course the army immediately told him that he would not be placed in a combat unit because of his age. So much for army promises. He took basic training in Utah and they made him a machine gunner. This story gets better! Smokey wound up participating in the Normandy invasion and became a prisoner of war for two years. He was wounded in action, receiving the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. He rose to the rank of Tech Sergeant before mustering out after the war. Smokey mentioned to us how he received his wounds. He was occupying a position that was cluttered with debris (wood, etc) and when mortared, flying debris hit him. When asked by several of his comrades passing by his position if he was able to walk with them, he replied "well I'm sure as hell not going to stay here!" Smokey has attended

many of our parades and meetings during his long membership with us and I certainly remember him volunteering to march with us during a parade in the city of Fountain. That was in 1995. He was only 86 years old then. We decided it was time for him to ride! Smokey we will miss you so. Lest we forget.

Our Veterans Day wreath laying ceremony was conducted by retired Col. Jim Miller and former president Bob Gassett on a cold November Day. More than twenty various organizations participated at Memorial Park here in the Colorado Springs area. (See Pictures) Steadfast and Loyal.

EASTERN PA CHAPTER

by Alex Cooker

The E. PA Chapter met at "RODES FIRESIDE INN" in Swedesboro, NJ for their annual holiday dinner celebration Sunday December 8, 2002. Chapter members and guests gathered in the early afternoon in the enclosed patio of the FIRESIDE INN, where greetings were exchanged and old memories



This picture of Smokey was taken shortly after he was drafted in Dec. 1943.



Col. Jim Miller (left) and Bob Gassett laying the wreath at our Fort Carson monument located in Memorial Park, Colorado Springs.

renewed.

Following the Flames of Remembrance ceremony and welcome by President Alex Cooker, dinner was served. Guests enjoyed meals of generous portions of Chicken Cordon Bleu, Stuffed Flounder and Prime Rib, ending with a dessert of sinful warm apple crisp with vanilla ice cream.

President Cooker enlightened those present on the wonderful reunion sponsored by the Northwest Chapter in Spokane, WA this past September and informed them of other chapter activities planned for the spring and summer.

Those in attendance included: Alex and Marian Cooker, Vera Berlew, Jake Ruser, Joe Engle and Linda, Alfred Buckingham, James and Sandra Smith, Angelo and Marie Marsella, Fred and Phyllis Turner, Clara VanDyke, Pam Jalbert, Mr. And Mrs. Ed Tavener, Mrs. Lukens, Joe and Ann Grinkewicz, Fred and Jeannette Ullrich, Wally and Margaret Easterly, Mr. And Mrs. Paul Blackstock, Richard and Lillian Baker, Ed MacEwen, and Charles Harrison.

Illinois Chapter Report

by Rick Sover

Belated Happy and Healthy New Year 2003 to all officer and members of the National and Illinois Chapter of the 4th Infantry Division Association. We are at the tail end of January and we have not reached 100%, we are still many members short. It was my hope to make 100%, but to no avail. Sometime in February I will attempt to issue another reminder. Remember in numbers we have strength. I was going to list all the unpaid members but changed my mind. I received word that Raymond Cutts a paid for life member of the Illinois chapter passed away. May his soul rest in peace. Our chapter reunion in Tuscola is in the final stages of preparation. I will be looking forward to seeing you in April. You should have received your registration forms from President Jerry Januszewski. So 'until next time STEADFAST and LOYAL.

IVY DRAGOONS CHAPTER

by Steve Edmunds

First of all, I would like to wish each of you, in the upcoming year, a year filled with peace, happiness and good health. As we enter into our fourth year as a chapter, I would like to take this opportunity to thank those that have renewed their membership and to welcome the new members: John D'Agostino, Jr. (B Co 69-70), Jim Vaughn (C Co 69-70), Robert D. Kirkland (E Co 69-70), Rick D. O'Neal (D Co 68-69), Harold Johnston (A Co 68-69), Jacob W. "Doc" Marks (D Co 68-69), John M. Harris (HHC 68), William G. Tripp (C Co 67-68), Christopher R. Dressler (E Co 69), James N Bury (B Co 67-68), Charles "Skip" Franges (C Co 67-68), Doug J. Crumley (E Co 66-67), Richard F. Ciavarra (D Co 68-69), Michael S. Kephart (C Co 66-67), Stanley R. Bode (A Co 67-68), Rick Brannan (D Co 67-68), James R. McConnell (D Co 69-70), Col. William P. Babcock (A Co 69-70), Charles Young (A Co 67-68), Terry G. Faulkner (C Co 67-69), Relius J. "Bo" Boudreaux (B Co 69-70), Robert D. Hillsberry (B Co 67-68) and John A. Perez (C Co 68-69). We

appreciate your support. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please consider doing so now. This past year, two reunions were held. One, a mini-reunion organized by members of Bravo Co in Las Vegas over St. Patrick's Day. The second was the Charlie Co reunion held in Des Moines, Iowa. The major event in the planning stages is our 3rd battalion reunion, which will be held July 3-6, 2003 in Las Vegas. It will be an event that you will not want to miss. More details to follow in this newsletter. I, also, understand that preliminary plans are in the works for a possible Alpha Co reunion. I have no further details at this time. Hopefully, in the future, we will see more reunions and mini-reunions being organized.

We are in the process of planning for our next trip to Vietnam on behalf of Open Hands & Hearts - Missions to Vietnam, tentative dates are August 1-16, 2003. If you have the desire to return and to be a part of helping the people in need in this impoverished country, I would like to hear from you. Cost of the trip is \$1,800.00. This covers airfare (Los Angeles-Vietnam-Los Angeles), visa, room (double occupancy) and board. A passport is required. Hotels are not 5 Star, but a big improvement over our sleeping conditions the first time we were there. Food, nothing fancy but an improvement over C-rations. Tentative itinerary - Saigon where we will set up the "soup kitchen" and feed some of the homeless children and other needy families; a visit to the Ben San Leprosy Village in Song Be; we will journey north up Route 1 staying in Nha Trang, Qui Nhon, Da Nang, Hue, Dong Ha, Khe Sanh, the DMZ. Returning southwest to Quang Ngai, Pleiku, Kontum, Dak To, An Khe, Banh Me Tuot, and returning to Saigon. It will provide the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of a countryside we did not have the opportunity to appreciate before and meet some of the friendliest people we may ever encounter. Applications must be received prior to March 31, 2003. If interested or you desire more info, please contact: Steve Edmunds, 2212 Shady Hills Dr, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, phone/fax 909-861-6379, e-mail: edmundsdb@aol.com

As the threat of war with Iraq looms on the horizon, a request was made by National to support our 4th Infantry Div troops, when and if they go to war. Our chapter has volunteered to support a battalion size unit. We remain "Steadfast and Loyal". This support might come in the form of cards, letters, e-mail, care packages or anything else that might benefit the troops. We should continue to keep all of our men and women in uniform in our prayers. Many of our brothers have sons and/or daughters in uniform today. And let us continue to reflect on the memories of our Brothers who cannot be with us today. Those that died in the heat of battle and those that have joined them after returning home. Gone but not forgotten.

Lehigh Valley Chapter

by Bruce Wesley

The Lehigh Valley Chapter of the 4th Infantry Division Association, held it's annual dinner on November 3rd, 2002 at the American Legion Post in Hellertown, PA. There were 60 people in attendance and everyone had a great time talking to old friends and new ones. First timer Walter Mexler and his wife Lorraine joined us this year. Joe Motil also recognized the past

Michigan Chapter Report

by William Pelfrey

officers. They were Past National President Bruce Wesley and wife Andrea, Past National President Joe Motil and wife Goldie, Past Chapter Presidents were Joseph Motil, Al Jandil, Thomas Carlton and Larry Sparta.

Before dinner was served, Jim Olesak, Chapter President, and Bruce Wesley, Chapter Chaplain conducted the Flames of Remembrance ceremony. The following names of our deceased comrades were read before the dinner prayer. The names are as follows, Franklin K. Reigner, 2nd Battalion Headquarters, 22nd Infantry, 3/18/02; Carlton E. Hess, 42nd Field Artillery, 5/2/02; Lester Ackerman, A Company, 22nd Infantry, 12/12/01.

After our dinner, which everyone enjoyed, the election of new officers was held. The following individuals were sworn in for the year 2003.

- President Douglas E. Foster
- Sr. Vice President Bruce T. Wesley
- Secretary Bruce T. Wesley
- Chaplain Bruce T. Wesley
- Jr. Vice President Clark K. Hamm
- Jr. Vice President Emil Pfenninger
- Treasurer James J. Olesak
- Asst. Treasurer Joseph E. Motil
- Sgt. at Arms David Borosi



2003 Officers of the Lehigh Valley Chapter

Joe Motil and Al Jandil were presented certificates of appreciation and recognition for all the hard work they had done for the Lehigh Valley Chapter since it's founding. Chapter President Jim Olesak and Bruce Wesley conducted this. They both were taken by surprise. We are not losing them, they are just stepping down from the positions they held for many years. We understand their position and wish them the best in the years to come.

Next meeting of the Chapter will be in March 2003.



Al Jandil (left) and Joe Motil pose with Certificates of Appreciation presented to them for their many years of dedicated service to the Chapter.

Michigan Chapter members send greetings to our fellow Ivymen across the land and remain true to our Division motto, Steadfast and Loyal, even if our state's weather doesn't. Our annual December banquet was met with snow and ice but this small challenge did not detract from an evening of great company, shared memories and tall stories. In attendance were:

- Phil Menendez (who also officiated for the last time as Chapter President, having retired from Ford Motor Company and planning to travel southward where the weather is a bit less hostile) and his wife Brenda
- Merle Davies (who was unanimously elected to serve another term as Secretary and treasurer – the real NCO of our motley crew, who keeps us functioning like the well-oiled machine that we wish we were back in our other lives) and his wife Arlene
- Norm LaVasseur (past National President and Judge Advocate) and his wife Jean
- Jim Roan (Lingert Service Award winner) and his wife Irene
- Sig and Helen Nelson
- Murney and Linda Bell
- Don and Betty Cole
- Sebastian LaFatta and Glenda Bolts
- And, Bill Pelfrey (elected President for 2003 for reasons clearly other than charisma) and his wife Lilia.

Absent because of illness were WWII members Roy and Mary Cheff; Don Fleck; Bob and Pauline Noce; and, Ernie and Bernice Teckman. Our thoughts are with them every day and we look forward to seeing them at this year's events.

As we enjoyed the December banquet, we were also all aware of the dangers and risks that may lie ahead for our active duty brothers in what promises to be another pivotal year for our nation. One theme that we shared was how little we had thought about our Division's motto, "Steadfast and Loyal," back when we were in France or Germany or Kontum or Pleiku provinces and how much it has come to mean since then.

After World War I, our Division became known as "The Famous Fighting Fourth" and in World War II, our record from Utah Beach through the Hurtgen Forest and onto Berlin speaks for itself. But in later years, we were often treated as what one historian called "The Forgotten Fourth" while other units such as the 101st and 82nd Airborne divisions were glorified in films and articles. As another generation faces the prospect of fighting yet another battle in yet another land far from home, we owe it to ourselves and to those who have gone before us to keep the Association thriving.

With that thought, we look forward to what we hope will be a record turn-out for our spring reunion in Port Huron, MI – details to be announced shortly.

MID-SOUTH CHAPTER

by Lee Rung

Well, the holidays are over, the Super Bowl is history, and the newest year has arrived, and it's time to make plans to attend our

chapter reunion the last weekend in April, the 24th, 25th and 26th. We will be at Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Robert Kennington and Marlin Goar are working very hard to set everything up for us. Let's all support their efforts by attending. This is our time! Time to get together to renew old, and a time to make new friendships. A time to relax, and a time to see and do new things. It is also a time to remember our friends who are no longer with us, and to share and make new memories. Pigeon Forge is the place to be.

A Registration Form (which you will need to fill out and return to our treasurer not later than 10th of April), and a brochure on the James Manor Hotel, where we will be staying are included in the mail out sent in January to our listed chapter members. You will need to contact the James Manor to make your reservations. Their number is 1-800-453-4007. Pigeon Forge is the primary gateway to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and is one of the fastest growing tourist cities in the South. It is filled with action-packed entertainment and lots of Old-fashioned Mountain hospitality. The Pigeon Forge Chamber of Commerce offers a free tour & travel guide that you can request by calling 1-865-453-5700 or 1-800-221-9858 or contact them on their E-mail: www.pigeonforgechamber.com.

In addition to the hospitality suite, we will be having our banquet buffet at 6 PM on Saturday the 26th. The speaker will be our own chapter member and now the Association's President, Gerry Howard. We will also have our Flames of Remembrance Candle Lighting Ceremony. In order to give the ladies more of an opportunity to SHOP we will not be having a ladies lunch this year. We will have a short business meeting. Remember that Pigeon Forge is the place to be. I hope to see you there. Ken Glass, Chapter President

We welcome a couple of new members: Ronnie Cribbs, Nam 68-69, 4th MP's and Donald Chappell, 1st/35th Inf., Nam 68. Also, we offer our sympathy to the wife and family of Darrel Wandling, who passed away in July of last year. If you have any questions please contact me at e-mail address: rungs@bell-south.net.

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

by Frank Bradley

The New England Chapter of the National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association will hold its Spring meeting 24-27 April 2003 at the Best Western Wynwood Hotel & Suites, US highway No 1 by-pass, Portsmouth, NH 08301 (on the circle opposite the liquor store). Please make your hotel reservations directly by calling 1-603-436-7600 and mentioning the 4th Division Association. Room rates are \$71.28 for Thursday through Saturday including tax for single or double and \$5.00 for each extra person in the room. Make your reservations as soon as possible but *no later than 24 March 2003* to assure these prices. On Thursday afternoon, 24 April, the hospitality room will open for early arrivals. On Friday, members and guests will be free to visit any of the area's attractions. On Saturday morning, 26 April, while the men gather for a business meeting at 10 AM, the ladies will meet to make a seasonal craft and to enjoy tea and other refreshments.

On Saturday evening following a social hour, we shall have our Flames of Remembrance ceremony at 6 p.m. with dinner to follow. The menu will include a choice of Prime Rib or Chicken Cordon Bleu @ \$17.50 or Baked Stuffed Filet of Sole @ \$18.70. Clam Chowder, Garden Salad, Peas and Onions, Roasted Red Bliss Potatoes. Dessert will be Apple Pie a la Mode, Coffee, or Tea, tax and gratuity included. Following dinner we shall have special entertainment. On Sunday morning from 8 to 10 AM we shall have a breakaway breakfast buffet featuring Toast, English Muffins Buttermilk Pancakes, French Toast, Scrambled Eggs. Bacon, Sausage, Hash Browns, Coffee, Tea, Fruit Juice, Assorted Jellies and butter, for \$10.00 tax and gratuity included. Customary letter will be sent to chapter members and friends. Other members and friends wishing to attend this weekend gathering should contact Treasurer Siegfried A. Budrick, 49 Black Flats Road, Dennis, MA 02635-1713, tel. 508-385-2291 as soon as possible but no later than 24 March to make dinner reservations.

NY/NJ CHAPTER

by Bob Gargiulo

On November 11 members of the Chapter and the Staten Island Military Order of the Purple Heart chartered a bus for a day trip to Washington, DC for Veterans Day ceremonies. Mike Boxer, Gary Lee, Lou Marcello and Tom O'Connor represented our Chapter.

We are in the early stages of planning a Chapter dinner and social for spring, more information will be given on the IVY home page guestbook site in January.

Lets hope and pray that 2003 is a secure one for America. We can feel confident in our Armed Forces. The military is continuing its outstanding tradition and we can take pride in our successes.

The NY/NJ Chapter is considering a two-day mini reunion for this summer, details will be posted in the June issue of "The Ivy Leaves". We are looking to increase our numbers at our functions and to add to our enrollment. To that end our registrar, John Wendell and his wife Regina, are actively recruiting new members. We're checking with local VFWs and American Legions for people who served in the 4th Division. We are especially looking for those who served in the 1950's in Germany and those who served in the 1980's and 1990's. Thanks for you're dues payments and a special thanks for your donations.

Our thoughts and prayers go out for all our military in the Middle East but especially for the 12,500 being deployed from the 4th Division.

Steadfast and Loyal

NORTHWEST CHAPTER

by Bob Reilly

Thanks to Donors: Thanks to these donors for their generosity to the chapter, the national association and the Friends of the Central Highlands (FOCH)—as of submission of this report (end of January): Bernace Burgmeier, Steve Smith, Alan Bell, Vern

ASSOCIATION MEMORABILIA

Some Spokane Reunion items still available.

There are a few reunion caps (\$18) and some shirts @ \$25 for any size and color (red, white or blue) left on the shelf. Selections are limited. *Include \$5.00 each P&H.* The caps have a red & white striped bill topped by white glow-in-the-dark stars on a blue field and have a special reunion 4th ID logo above the bill. None of these items will ever be made again, so if you want these collector's items, order now. Orders limited to stock on hand: email me at joans.bob@verizon.net, or send check to 4 IDA, 107 Schafer St #7A, Wenatchee WA 98801-6340. If I have it, I'll send it or return your check; first order gets it. Send an SASE for our brochure of other available 4 IDA shirts, caps, jackets. *There are also a few Spokane, 2002 Reunion cap pins available @\$3.50 each (postage incl.) until they sell out...then they'll be history.* An 84th Annual National Reunion ballpoint pen will be included *free* with each reunion item order.

Capoeman, Beverley Galbreath and Randy Martz. A special note of thanks goes out to Larry Stromberg for the energy he expended on the reunion pictures project...see box below.

Bernace on the Mend: Bernace C. Burgmeier, Puyallup, WA, the widow of Charles N. Burgmeier and herself a veteran Army Nurse, is recovering from a triple bypass and is feeling better every day. She is still looking for your cancelled stamps to recycle, to benefit the University of Washington Hospital Cancer Research Center. Old, new, foreign or domestic, all issues are welcome. As I understand the process, they are steamed off, and then sold to companies that resell them to collectors. Be sure to leave space around the edges to prevent tearing: PO Box 73566; Puyallup WA 98373-0566.

Bill Wooten Still Confined: No, not in the stockade. Bill is recovering nicely and is in a rehab facility, where he undergoes torturous therapy to rebuild his lost functions. Prayers are welcome, as are calls to his cell phone: 253-226-0149 and letters: Charles w. "Bill" Wooten; Rainier Vista; 920 12th Ave SE; Puyallup WA 98372-4920.

Reilly's Last Term: Second notice: I will serve as secretary and treasurer only through the next annual meeting, by which time someone will need to step into those jobs or return the charter to National. They are core functions in the day-to-day operation of the chapter and must be filled for the chapter to continue its existence. I will assist in any way I can for the first year but I've been in the trenches for about ten years now. It's somebody else's

84th Reunion Pictures Available on VCR

The Northwest Chapter has produced a VCR Video Tape with more than fifty still pictures of the reunion functions and tours for only \$15.00 plus \$2.50 for shipping and handling. To order, send your name and mailing address with a check or money order for \$17.50 each. Allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery. Make the check or money order payable to E. L. Stromberg. Call 509-627-3232, or write E. L. Stromberg, 1137 Foxtrot Lane, Richland, WA 99352, or send E-mail to FOFOLARRY@AOL.COM if you have any questions.

turn. Call or email President Rich Kellar: 509-982-2890 richard-ek@cougs.net or me at 509-667-2416 joans.bob@verizon.net.

2003 Chapter Reunion: Nothing finalized yet but we will have this reunion in the Lewiston, ID - Clarkston, WA area or we will once again enjoy the wonderful facilities at Pacific Beach, the old Navy station and DOD R&R site on the Washington coast. We'll let you know details as soon as the site is chosen. We're looking at the end of August or early September. We welcome new members and members of other chapters, as well as At-Large members.

Ohio Chapter

by Ray Dunkel

As your newly elected Secretary/Treasurer it is my goal to continue to provide the same high level of service to all members of the Chapter as Elmer Klaus has in the past. Please let me know of any change in your status, such as change of address, deaths etc. It is essential that you or your next of kin keep me informed so I can keep the Chapter records up to date and National abreast of what is going on in our Chapter. I am reminded of what one of my former Company Commanders told me when I first made Corporal; he said "Always keep the troops informed - especially this troop!!" Enough said. Elmer and I thank those members who responded by paying their Association and Chapter dues prior to the first of the year. It is extremely important to have each member meet this deadline set forth in the Bylaws. Paying on time ensures that your membership is continuous and the "Ivy Leaves" will continue to be delivered without interruption. It also saves the Chapter the expense of sending out an additional dues notice to delinquent members. Be reminded until further notice no new "Paid for Life" membership applications are being accepted.

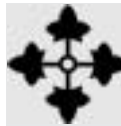
Recently Pete Parker who served with the 6/29FA in Vietnam joined our ranks. Pete and his family reside in Silver Creek, New York where he is established in business. Welcome Pete and family, may you find your association with us enjoyable and satisfying.

Condolences and sympathy are extended to the families of Al Donatello, B/6/29FA, WWII, and Bernice Techman the wife of Ernie Teckman, Michigan Chapter and CannonCo/12Inf, WWII.

Al was a regular participant at Chapter Reunions until recent years when health prevented him from attending. He looked forward to attending so he could reminisce with Bill Cook and John Lester (Western PA Chapter) about their experiences during World War II while serving with B/6/29 Field Artillery Battalion.

Bernice and Ernie were regular attendees at Chapter Reunions. They would regularly drive from their home in Michigan to be with us. Bernice was an extremely pleasant person, petite in size, who inspired us with her worldly knowledge and experience. It was a delight to speak with her as Bernice normally had a firm grasp on matters and would end the conversation with a logical explanation or solution to the subject matter. We have missed seeing her and Ernie in recent years as health concerns have prevented them from traveling to be with us.

"As they go from life to life may they rest in peace"



You are invited and encouraged to attend the Western PA/Ohio Chapters Spring Reunion to be held in Butler, PA at the Butler Days Inn and Conference Center, the 8th through 11 May 2003. A flyer will be mailed out with all details.

The Ohio Chapter will be hosting the Ohio/Western PA Chapter's Fall Reunion from the 2nd through 5 October. The reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn, 240 Hines Hill Road, Hudson, OH 44236, Telephone number 330-653-9191. Hudson, Ohio is located just south of Cleveland. Plan on attending. Details will be mailed out prior to the reunion.

This years National Reunion is scheduled for September 7th through 14 and will be held at the Plaza Hotel, Killeen, Texas. If you are not familiar with Killeen it is located adjacent to Fort Hood. We can expect the Texas Chapter and the Fort Hood Garrison, as well as the friendly and gracious citizens of Killeen to go all out to ensure a pleasurable and memorable reunion.

The following general information on parliamentary procedure as it pertains to Motions is provided for your review and information. A member makes a motion; another member renders a second to the motion (the general thought is the member seconding the motion must be in favor of it when in reality a second does not necessarily mean someone is in favor of the motion only that the motion merits discussion). Neither the making nor the seconding places the motion before the assembly. The chair is the only one that can bring forth a motion to the assembly and that is by stating the motion. After the chair states the motion, it is then open for discussion/debate by the assembly. (Section II, 4, Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised, Edition 10, October 2000)

Is there a Chapter member who has the knowledge, desire and time to develop a Web Site for the Chapter? If there is please contact me, as I would like to discuss developing one for the Chapter.

Comments/suggestions are welcomed. Refer to "The Ivy Leaves" under Chapters for my address.

A Quotation by, Jean Jacques Rousseau, "*Liberty is not in any form of government. It is in the heart of freeman; he carries it with him everywhere.*"

Wisconsin Chapter News

by Roger R Dufek

The Wisconsin Chapter is busy planing the spring mini-reunion to be held the first weekend of May. We invite all 4th Division members and friends to attend. A special thanks goes out to Mike, Sandy and Matt Grobelch for all the work in putting this reunion together. The theme of this reunion will be 4th Division Heroes. Please join us for a weekend of fun and education.

The chapter will once again be traveling to the King Veterans home in King Wisconsin for bingo with the residents with the help of Amvets post 726 from West Bend Wisconsin on March 22nd. This is a yearly event for the Chapter under the direction of Chapter president Ken Schmidt and his wife Cam. Please call Ken at 920-5334685 if you have any questions.

The Wisconsin Chapters prayers and thoughts go out to deployed 4th Division troops. After seeing them in action at Fort Hood we have all the confidence that they will get the job done.

VA Announces 2003 Comp & DIC Rates

The Department of Veterans Affairs has released the Compensation & DIC ratings for 2003. The new rates were effective December 31, 2002, and should have appeared in the VA checks for January 2003.

Compensation Ratings (for service-connected disabilities): 100% \$2,310.00; 90% \$1,317.00; 80% %1,171.00; 70% \$1,008.00; 60% \$801.00; 50% 633.00; 40% \$445.00; 30% \$310.00; 20% \$201.00; and 10% \$104.00. Veterans with dependents receive an additional \$204.00. Pharmacy copayments are waived for all service connected prescriptions, as are healthcare copayments for s/c ratings of 50% and higher. Additional awards for various related conditions have also increased. For a complete listing of awards contact your VSO or the VA at (800) 827-1000.

DIC rating (for those veterans who died on or after January 1, 1993) the basic monthly rate is \$984.00, with an additional \$204.00 if the veteran was receiving or entitled to service connected compensation at 30% or higher.

The DIC rating for spouses of veterans who died before January 1, 1993, is based on the pay grade of the veteran at the time of death and ranges from \$948.00 to \$2,021.00. For additional information contact your VSO or VA office at (800) 827-100

TAPS for America's Veterans

As America's veteran population increases in age, the need for Taps increases as well. Under current revised regulations, various veterans' service organizations are providing military honors at the graveside of honorably discharged veterans. The Undersecretary of Defense has authorized certain criteria for these funeral ceremonies from active duty resources as well.

The basic funeral detail may be a minimum of 2 service personnel from the veteran's branch of service for the ceremonial folding and presentation of the flag to the veteran's next of kin. Taps is authorized to be played using a tape recorder.

Now there is another option available to veterans' families. An organization called Bugles Across America has been formed to provide live players for America's deceased service members. More then 1,500 buglers are awaiting the call to sound Taps at a military funeral.

Now Bugles Across America is helping make sure that our nations heroes make their final journey with proper dignity.

You can locate a bugler at www.BuglesAcross America.org.

This brings up another point, let your family know where your discharge is located. It seems routinely that I get calls asking what are "Fred's" entitlements. The first thing I ask is do you have his discharge (DD214)? Nine times out of ten I get a negative reply. PLEASE guys let your family know where your military paperwork is located - it's important both to you and your family.

Book Corner



“A Soldier’s Journal”

I would like to announce to members of the 4th Infantry Division Association that after 57 years, my World War II Army Journal that I had self-published and listed in the book section of the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society, has been accepted for publication by New York book publisher ibooks, Inc., an affiliate of Simon and Schuster who will handle all distribution. I signed a contract and received a cash advance April 1, 2002. They changed the title to *A Soldier’s Journal*, by David Rothbart. It will be out in May 2003. There is much more to say

about it. I will communicate with you further near the publication date. Even now the book is listed for sale on Internet by Amazon.com for delivery next May. Bob Babcock, Historian and former president of the 4th Div., read the book and wrote to me that he liked it very much. At one of the Army reunions I attended, Major General John F. Ruggles told me: “I read parts of your Journal several times a year.”

Many memoirs have been printed about World War II, most of them written long after the war. I have never seen

anything like my journal, written at the time and place. It contains 486 dated entries. I began writing upon my induction into the Army on Valentine’s Day, February 14, 1942 and continued on to the conclusion of my Army service. After 13 weeks of basic training at Camp Wheeler, Georgia, I joined the 22nd Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division at Fort Gordon, Augusta, Georgia and remained with this outfit throughout the campaign in Europe and until my discharge after the war ended.

I look forward to the exciting publication next May.

David Rothbart
5864 Philips Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15217
<Davrothb2@cs.com>

I have developed a 3-page web site which gives details about *A Soldier’s Journal*: www.davidrothbart.com



“LIGHT RUCK”

Here is one year in the life of a grunt serving as a rifleman in an Army infantry company. Mission: secure or “pacify” the Central Highlands of South Vietnam. Objectives: eliminate enemy infiltration from North Vietnam; prevent operations of the local Viet Cong forces; win the hearts

and minds of the local civilians.

He doesn’t want to be there, but, so what? It’s 1969, his country calls, and there he is, in “the Nam” doing his time as a rifleman, and putting his life on the line. The enemy is always there, just waiting for the right situation. His presence is always feared. After all, it’s his domain: a mountainous jungle environment, offering extreme heat, treacherous terrain, leeches, monsoon rains, malaria, poisonous snakes, and tigers. Not much fun for American soldiers under the best circumstances.

Then comes the command of the squad leader, “Saddle up, pack a light ruck! A recon patrol is in contact.” Now, every move counts, and a guy does whatever is asked of him, not for God and country, but for the fellows in the front and rear.

He never considered avoiding the military—legally or illegally. He felt fortunate to live in the United States, and he wanted to do his part. He did his duty. This narrative speaks compellingly of a regular guy who served and sacrificed for what he thought was right.

6 × 9”, 240 pages, \$19.95; Softcover, 4-color jacket; ISBN: 1-893846-56-3; Author: Tom Lacombe; Edited by Ann A. Hunter; Illustrations by Bryan Richardson; Photos from the author’s collection

First at Normandy

8th Infantry Regimental Prints for Sale



8th Infantry Regiment is selling Limited Edition* Prints created by artist Don Stivers of our historic assault on Utah Beach. Print is 17” x 24” or 25” (larger after mat and frame).

THIS IS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

These prints normally sell for \$150 or more. We are selling these prints for \$100 until 5 Mar 2003

Price: \$50 Deposit (non-refundable), \$50 upon receipt of the print Make checks payable to SLOA, we will hold prints until after return from deployment.

Point of Contact is CPT Andrew Gilman at 2-8 IN S2

Phone: 254-288-6320 (DSN 738-6320) or 254-368-8599 (cell)

Selected print numbers available upon request



The National 4th ID Reunion

September 7-14, 2003 ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ Ft Hood, Texas



The Texas Chapter and the Ironhorse Chapter of the National 4th Infantry Association and the 4th Infantry Division (AC) invite everyone to Ft Hood, Texas September 7-14, 2003 for the National Reunion. The Commanding General of the 4th Infantry Division has committed resources and manpower to make this reunion top the activities that were held during the reunion at Ft Hood, Texas 4 years ago. The reunion hotel will be the Plaza Hotel operating under new management. The hotel is located at

1721 Central Texas Expressway, Killeen, TX. The room rate is \$69.00. Reservations will be made on your own by calling 254.634.1555 and as always, please let them know that you are with the 4th ID REUNION. Please complete the registration form and send it to the Chapter Treasurer, David Heallen, 4140 Pirates Beach, Galveston, TX 77554. Telephone Number 409.737.9567.

Reunion Schedule of Events *(Tentative)*

Final plans for the reunion will be developed during the May mini-reunion of the Texas Chapter. The tentative plan supported by the 4th Infantry Division (AC) follows:

SUN 7 SEP 03

Registration-Hospitality @ Hotel

MON 8 SEP 03

Registration-Hospitality @ Hotel

TUE 9 SEP 03

Golf Tournament @ Clear Creek Golf Course
Registration-Hospitality @ Hotel

WED 10 SEP 03

Tour Day* – Austin, TX, Waco, TX,
San Antonio, TX
4th ID Museum Grand Opening,
Walk of Honor @ Ft. Hood

THUR 11 SEP 03

1st Business Meeting @ Hotel
Evening BBQ @ BLORA

FRI, 12 SEP 03

4ID Day at Fort Hood
Regimental Events
Training Visit
Static Display
M9/M16 Range
Tattoo Ceremony

SAT 13 SEP 03

2nd Business Meeting
Hospitality @ Hotel
Banquet @ Officer's Club, Ft. Hood

**Tour information and costs will be available upon registration. A minimum number of participants may be required to provide the tours*

Confronting Iraq

Tracking down a little rest: Members of the Third Battalion, 66th Armoured Regiment, took time for a little shut-eye on the tracks of the railhead after crews loaded equipment around the clock to prepare for deployment of the Fourth infantry Division.

Photo by Steve Traynor, Killeen Daily Herald via AP



Registration for 85th Annual National Reunion in Ft. Hood, TX

Please Print Name Clearly

Last Name _____ First Name _____ MI _____

Name(s) of Spouse/Guest(s) _____

Chapter _____ Arrival/Departure Dates _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please indicate any special dietary needs _____

Day	Event	Cost	# of People	Total \$
Registration Fee (Per Adult Attending)	\$10 before 7/1, \$20 after; \$30 at the door.....			\$ _____
9 SEP	Golf Tournament	\$35.....X	_____ =	\$ _____
11 SEP	BBQ @ BLORA	\$35.....X	_____ =	\$ _____
13 SEP	Banquet @ O Club	\$35.....X	_____ =	\$ _____
Please check preference: <input type="checkbox"/> Beef entrée <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken entrée.....				
Donation to Friends of the Central Highlands, Inc.				\$ _____
Grand Total Enclosed				\$ _____

Tours of San Antonio, Waco, Frederickburg and Austin will be available upon registration. Costs and times will be available at the registration desk. A minimum number of participants may be required to provide the tour.

Mail completed form as soon as possible (**Not later than 1 Aug 03**) to: David R. Heallen, 4140 Pirates Beach, Galveston, TX 77554. Include check payable to: 4 IDA.

Make hotel reservations directly to the hotel:

Plaza Hotel
1721 Central Texas Expressway
Killeen, TX 76541
(254) 634-1555

Mail Bag



This is a letter for Mrs. Patricia O'Malley Roy, daughter of Major Richard J. O'Malley, in attendance at the Company G reunion in 2002.

Johnny B. Newton, Jr. is the founder and chair of Company G, 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry's reunion of World War II fighting men. These men welcome you to this year's event, here in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Many Europeans knew us as the courageous soldiers with the Green Cross, who had the gift of courage given to them, from an unknown source. During World War II, I had the honor of soldiering with the finest group of Americans ever assembled to fight for their country.

For the most part, our leaders and officers were brave and courageous men, particularly our commanding officers. There were many in the 2nd Battalion that your father commanded, whose acts of valor, facing a strong and protected enemy who were well set in their position and who outnumbered them, fought like the true, brave and courageous American soldiers would. Their performance was superior,

encountering danger, and exhibiting "raw" courage and bravery, on the battlefields of Europe. The survivors are the gallant men that you are sitting with and that you are among today. I am truly honored to have been among these men and ask the blessings of the Deity for them.

Among these brave Americans was your father, Major Richard J. O'Malley, one of the bravest soldiers, whose courage stood out in his leadership. The valor exhibited by him while leading his battalion into battle was a performance that has no equal.

We are honored to have you, the daughter of this courageous leader, attend our reunion. Your father was a tough but congenial leader, who put his men's welfare first and foremost as his responsibility.

When our ranks were depleted, your father persevered and carried on until the enemy was routed from his hole. The respect and high regard we have for him can never be removed and his memory will always go on.

The furious fighting at Avranches, where the enemy tried to split the American Forces on the Mortain Peninsula before they were routed. Your father's battalion was cited for exceptional bravery and for his leadership. Your father, out of millions of soldiers, was the only soldier of World War II who was given a salute on the battlefield, ordered by his commanding officer, General Raymond Barton. There was a brief silence and then, a tremendous volley of rifle and artillery was fired at the enemy, in his name and in his honor. While losing his life to an enemy soldier at the Battle of Sunken Road on Sunday July 16, 1944, his gallantry lives on in the hearts of us in his command. God's Speed, Dear Daughter, and God's Blessing.

Respectfully submitted,

By the Men of Your Father's Command
2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry, Company G
Johnny B. Newton, Jr.

National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association

Member Death Notification (Editor's copy)

Chapter _____

Name of Member _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Era and Unit _____

Date of Death _____

Spouses Name _____

Executive Director notified? Yes No

Other Comments: _____

Mail to: Dick Taylor
PO Box 26565
Las Vegas, NV 89126

National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association

Member Death Notification (Executive Director's copy)

Chapter _____

Name of Member _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Era and Unit _____

Date of Death _____

Spouses Name _____

Ivy Leaves Editor notified? Yes No

Spouse may join as a "MEMORIAL" member If she/he desires. Have them fill out an application and pay the appropriate dues.

Mail to: Gregory A. Rollinger
13507 Danube Lane
Rosemont, MN 55068

Schedule of Events

Upcoming Chapter Level Events/Meetings National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association

April 2003:

❖ 3-6 – Florida Chapter Spring Reunion

The Florida Chapter will host their Spring 2003 Reunion during the period 3-6 April, 2003 at the Holiday Inn, I-75, Exit 352 Hwy I-75, 3621 West Silver Spring Blvd, Ocala, FL 34475. Phone 1-352-362-0381. For further information contact Treasurer Robert Krause, 4407 County Breeze Drive, New Port Richey, FL 34653. Phone 1-727-376-2660 Rovinkid@earthlink.net

❖ 11-13 - Illinois Chapter Spring Mini-Reunion

The Illinois Chapter will hold their Spring Mini-Reunion from April 11-13 at the Ameri-host Hotel in Tuscola, Illinois. Call 217-253-3500 to make your reservations. For further information contact Bruce and Sue Gass at 217-543-3641 or via e-mail at: gasshouse@one-eleven.net

❖ 24-26 Mid-South Chapter Reunion

Mid-South Chapter Reunion will be held in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Members and guests are welcome. Do come and enjoy a 4thfully southern good time. We will be at the James Manor Hotel. For further info please contact lee Rung at 504-392-03699 or e-mail rungs@bellsouth.net.

❖ 25-27 - Carolinas Chapter Spring Mini-Reunion

Holiday Inn Airport, Columbia SC - Hotel phone 803-794-9440 Contact Rick Adams at 864-576-7359 or RJAdams90@cs.com

May 2003:

❖ 8-11 - Western PA/OH Chapters Spring Reunion

The 2003 Spring Reunion of the WPA/OH Chapters will be held during the weekend of May 8-11, 2003 at the Butler DAYS INN and Conference Center, Butler, PA. Room rates will be \$74.00 (tax inclusive), and Banquet costs will be \$38.00 per person with a choice of Yankee Pot Roast or Stuffed Breast of Chicken. A Hoagie lunch will be served at Noon on Saturday, and the Breakaway Breakfast will be on Sunday morning. More information will be provided in THE IVY LEAVES and on the web site at a later date.

❖ 30-31 - Capital Chapter Spring Reunion

The Capital Chapter will hold their Spring Reunion in historic Gettysburg Pennsylvania May 30-31, 2003 at the BEST INN, 301 Steinwehr Ave, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Room rates are \$60+tax for Thursday May 29th (for those wishing to arrive a day early) and \$83+tax for Friday May 30th and Saturday May 31st. Make your room reservations directly with the hotel at 1-800-237-8466. Be sure to state that you are with the 4th Infantry Division Reunion. Reservations must be made by April 30, 2003 to get these rates. Free deluxe Continental Breakfast is included. The hotel also offers allergen-free "Evergreen" rooms for those with allergies (you must request an Evergreen room when you make your reservations). The hotel is in the heart of the historic district and is within easy walking distance of most major attractions.

The Lincoln Train Museum (425 Steinwehr) features model toy trains from the 1800's to the present day. There you can actually board the Lincoln Train and relive history as you travel to Gettysburg for the dedication of the new cemetery. As the countryside passes by, listen to the personal thoughts of President Lincoln preparing to deliver a "few appropriate remarks". A delightful experience in sight and sound!

The National Civil War Wax Museum features over 30 separate scenes and 200 life-size action figures. History comes alive in the Battleroom Auditorium. The only digitally enhanced audio visual presentation of its kind in the entire world. Life-size figures re-create Pickett's Charge and other Gettysburg highlights. See and hear

the animated figure of President Lincoln present his Gettysburg Address at the National Cemetery. On most weekends there is a Living History Encampment in front of the wax Museum featuring live re-enactors.

The Gettysburg National Park Visitor's Center and Cyclorama are directly across the street from the hotel.

Other "non military" attractions in the area include the Gettysburg Village Factory Stores and the newly opened Boyd's Bear Country featuring a 100,000 square foot barn packed full of Boyd's Bears, and a free museum that details the history of the Boyds Collection.

Our Saturday dinner will be held at the Herr Tavern & Publick House. Built in 1815 and used as the 1st Confederate hospital in Gettysburg it offers fine dining in a cozy and casual atmosphere. After dinner those in attendance will be addressed by President Abraham Lincoln. Mr. James A. Getty who operates The Battle Theatre in Gettysburg will perform as Mr. Lincoln...no, he will become Mr. Lincoln and speak to the group. Those who saw him perform for us the last time we were in Gettysburg will verify that he does, in fact, become Abraham Lincoln.

We hope to see you in Gettysburg!

For further information and/or registration forms please contact Capital Chapter Treasurer Roger Barton at: 2 Spring Drive, Walkersville, MD 21793-8107 (301) 845-4168 or via e-mail at: rogerb@xecu.net

June 2003:

❖ 5-7 - Red Warrior Reunion

The 1/12th Red Warriors (Vietnam) will hold a reunion June 5th, 6th and 7th 2003 at Ft Carson, Colorado. For further information contact:

Harry Dilkes, 9 Morris Avenue, Edison, NJ 08837 732-494-3572 dilkes@aol.com

September 2003:

❖ 7-14 - National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association National Reunion

The National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association will hold our National Reunion at the Plaza Hotel in Killeen, Texas from September 7-14 2003. Killeen is very close to Fort Hood, Texas that is the home of the 4th Infantry Division. The deployment of the 4th Infantry Division to the Gulf Region will not change these plans! On the contrary, it will give our members and guests a chance to do even more to support our soldiers and their families. Further details on the reunion will be posted as we receive them from the host Texas chapter.

❖ 24-28 – G Company 12 Infantry Reunion

Myrtle Beach South Carolina – Contact Johnnie B. Newton
594 Todd Dr NE, Concord, NC 28025 704-782-6256

October 2003:

❖ 2-5 - Ohio/Western PA Chapter's Fall Reunion

The Ohio and Western PA Chapters invite you to attend their Fall Reunion, which will be held 2-5 October 2003 at the Holiday Inn, 240 Hines Hill Rd, Hudson Ohio. Phone the hotel to make reservations at 1-330-653-9191. More details will be posted as they become available.

For further information concerning any of these of these events, contact the appropriate chapter treasurer.

For further information concerning any of these events, contact the appropriate chapter treasurer.

Task Force Ferina

By Ivan Pierce

While finishing my Bachelor of Arts in Sociology I came across a phrase that goes like this: “Military intelligence is to intelligence as military music is to music”. Perhaps it was the title of a required book for a sociology class. Wherever it came from, it is an appropriate introduction to what follows. These incidents occurred because of Military Intelligence.

Some bright boy in Military Intelligence heard Hanoi Hanna claim that U.S. Forces were preparing to invade Cambodia. Hanoi Hanna further asserted that we were building new roads and improving old ones to facilitate this invasion. Bright Boy thought it would be career enhancing if he took her up on part of her claim. Task Force Ferina was created to carry out the plan of highway improvement between Duc Co and the Cambodian border. (Major Ferina was at that time the S-3, Operations Officer of the 3rd Battalion of the 8th Infantry) Task Force Ferina consisted of our infantry company, some engineers, and a platoon of tanks from the 69th Armored Battalion. The engineers had metal detectors, five five-ton dump trucks, a bucket loader and a D-9 Cat with its prime mover.

Our company provided infantry security for the engineers and tanks as they methodically widened and improved 27 klicks of Vietnam Highway 19 from Duc Co west to Cambodia. We began making slow, but steady, progress. The task force moved so slowly that it was like a walk in the park for C Company. The operation was without incident for three days. On the fourth day, the engineer metal detectors were slowed down repeatedly while they investigated piece after piece of mortar or artillery fragment imbedded in the road. All day they had located multiple pieces of harmless metal; late in the afternoon they missed something significant.

My platoon was providing left flank security and remained between 100 and 150 meters from the road. The metal detectors were in front followed by two tanks. Behind the tanks came the engineer bucket loader and five-ton dump trucks. The prime mover hauling the D-9 was next, followed by two more tanks.

Military Intelligence thought up Task Force Ferina to show Hanoi Hanna the U.S. Army could build a road to Cambodia if it wanted to.

Suddenly the air reverberated with the sound of an exploding shell. Dust and debris flew in every direction. My platoon fell into defensive positions protecting the left side of the road. Yelling and screaming followed the explosion, but there were no further eruptions. I checked the positions and fields of fire of my platoon, moving several to positions to cover gaps in the coverage. When I was satisfied with the hasty defensive positions, I walked toward the road to see what had caused the explosion.

I never reached the road because fifty meters short of it I almost stumbled over a wheel from the lead five-ton dump. The tire was in shreds and the wheel was broken. Looking at the truck, I saw it was missing the left front wheel and steering arm. The driver was sitting on the road by his truck, blood oozing from his legs and face. The sandbags on the floor of the cab had saved his life, but the sand in the bags had removed a lot of his skin.

As we reconstructed the incident, we learned that the metal detectors missed a blasting cap buried under an inch of dirt. The blasting cap was lying on a one-foot section of tire from an U.S. vehicle. The tire section confused the signals of the metal detectors. Under the tire segment and attached to the blasting cap was a small piece of C-4 plastic explosive. The C-4 was molded around the nose of a mortar round buried under the section of tire.

After the metal detectors had passed over the blasting cap, the tanks drove over it without crushing the blasting cap. There are two possible reasons the tanks didn't explode the mine. First, the blasting cap may have been placed horizontally across the road and the space between the treads of the tanks may have missed it. Second, the tank treads produce a very small pressure per square inch of surface and they could have driven over the blasting cap and not crushed it. When the first truck drove over the section there was enough pressure to crush the cap and a five-ton dump truck was destroyed.

Following the explosion, Captain Powers,

and Charger (Lt. Col. Lynch) decided to evacuate the truck and injured engineers. They requested a Chinook to lift out the injured man and truck. The helicopter was scheduled to arrive in less than an hour so we proceeded west.

There was one other small loss during this action. The Sorengen Steel knife I purchased when I graduated from OCS, and sharpened every day for a year, was gone. It fell out when I dove into the brush and I didn't notice it was gone until we were three klicks from the incident site.

That night we were a lot more wary than at any time since Task Force Ferina began. Incidents like the one of that day emphasized what could happen to our support vehicles. We all realized that we, on foot, were extremely vulnerable. That day's problem also indicated the VC knew where we were and, probably where we were going. The unanswered question was how many enemy were close enough to mount a serious attack.

The next morning no fires were allowed, so after a quick cold breakfast we continued west along Highway 19. At noon we came upon an element of the Regional Forces-Popular Forces, the ones we called Ruff Puffs.

Fourth Division Headquarters usually assigned local missions to the Ruff Puffs, to investigate areas for enemy troops that were close to them. If the Ruff Puffs reported no troops, you could bet your life they were there. If they reported contact with the enemy, but no casualties of their own, you knew there was no enemy within 10,000 meters.

Being ever vigilant for opportunities to enhance Vietnamese-American relations, Captain Powers asked for permission to pass through their outpost. They gave him specific directions on how we could pass safely through the minefields and booby traps around their camp. Since my platoon was providing left flank security, we went that way following the instructions provided. Captain Powers, with Chuck Munch, the FO, and the trail platoon went through the center of the compound. They stopped and coordinated for support from the outposts two 4.2-inch mortars.

After arriving in the central highlands we seldom went into a single file formation but

on the rare occasions when we did, my position was third in line. The point man was first, followed by a grenadier with an M-79 grenade launcher, and then myself. The radio operator followed me, and then came the leader of the squad on point duty. Because we hadn't been in single file for two months, there were so many volunteers that I designated the 1st squad to lead and let the squad leader pick the point man.

We started around the left side of the Ruff Puff's outpost through an area where all vegetation was clear cut to deny cover to the enemy and provide open fields of fire. The Ruff Puffs assured us there were no mines or booby traps in our path. Halfway through the area the point man suddenly stopped, raised his right hand and we all stopped in place.

The point man passed word back that we were in the middle of a lot of booby traps. Looking around, I saw six fragmentation grenades within ten meters of where I stood. Monofilament line was tied to the pin of each grenade, stretched out several meters and staked down taut. The pins of the grenades were crimped and pulled to the point that any additional tension on the line or jarring the ground next to the grenade would dislodge the pin.

We passed this information down the line with instructions to maintain a ten-meter interval, and for everyone to step directly in the footprints of the man preceding. By stepping directly in each other's footprints I hoped if mines were present, the danger lay ahead and not behind. I notified Captain Powers of our predicament and then ordered the point man forward.

The point man went ten meters before the second man followed. Each time he stepped over a trip wire, he pointed it out to the man behind him. For ten minutes I concentrated solely on the two men in front of me, and on where I placed my feet. Once clear of the danger area, my apprehension mounted while the remaining 27 members of the platoon cleared the danger area, one at a time. The waiting produced the second most stressful time of my life, but thanks to the alertness of the point man, no one was injured.

Clearing the danger area, we reformed into our usual company diamond formation and started toward Cambodia. We proceeded without incident some 2,000 meters west of the Ruff Puff outpost, then Lt. Munch

called for recon by fire, which is firing into the area ahead or to the side of your position to see if someone shoots back. Soldiers of any army usually return fire if something comes anywhere near them.

We stopped while the recon by fire was being conducted. Lt. Munch found a likely area and called for one round of 4.2-inch mortar. The round landed precisely where he wanted it and knowing there were two 4.2-inch mortars in the outpost, he called for ten rounds.

From our location we heard the rounds coming out of the tubes. Mortars produce a specific hollow thunk when they leave the tube. The first mortar of the ten requested landed exactly where the spotter round exploded and I counted six thunks before the first round exploded.

When the second round landed, it exploded in the middle of Charlie Barrett's 1st Platoon, which was on right flank security. As soon as the second round landed, Lt. Munch started yelling "Cease Fire! Cease Fire!" By the time the mortar crews got the message eight of the requested ten rounds were in the air, and four rounds ripped into the 1st Platoon.

My hands were full in keeping my platoon in position and preventing their running to help their friends, but discipline remained intact and we held our position. A few minutes later the 2nd, 3rd and 4th platoons spread out, expanding the perimeter to provide protection for 1st platoon and its wounded. When the expanded perimeter was secure SFC Hoopes took command of the platoon while I slipped back to the road to see what had happened to the 1st Platoon.

C Company, with the exception of myself and a few other replacements for men killed or wounded, had been together for two years. They had gone to Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training together at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, after which four of the best men were sent to OCS.

The rest of the company went to Ft. Lewis, Washington, and trained with their platoon sergeants until the four men finished OCS, got their commissions and joined the company at Ft. Lewis. They trained at Ft. Lewis for an additional three months before the company shipped to Vietnam as a unit. When this incident occurred, the original members of the company had less than three months left in Vietnam before they were

scheduled to return home.

The four errant mortar rounds all landed on the 1st squad of the 1st Platoon. The squad leader was dead, and five other men were wounded. Charger was overhead in his command chopper and he called for the Med. Evacs. He then landed at the outpost and secured the mortar positions so that no changes could be made in the settings on the mortars. He called 1st Brigade headquarters and reported the "friendly fire" casualties and requested an immediate investigation.

While this was going on, we prepared a landing zone for the Med. Evac's and treated the wounded. There was an Army photographer accompanying the task force and he ran around taking pictures of the dead and the wounded. In his enthusiasm to get as many pictures as possible, he pushed Charlie Barrett away from one of the wounded men he was treating. Charlie sprang to his feet, chambered a round in his CAR-15, flipped off the safety and stuck the muzzle under the photographer's chin. Charlie said in slow and measured tones, "Take the film out of your camera and expose it now! If you don't I'll kill you where you stand!"

The photographer started to protest and Charlie shoved the muzzle harder into the photographer and glared at him. Charlie's face displayed pure, unadulterated, malice aforethought. The photographer blinked twice then stripped the film from his camera.

Charger arrived soon after this incident to evaluate the situation and see if he could personally render any assistance. The photographer approached the Charger and lodged a complaint against Charlie for his actions. After questioning the photographer and Lt. Barrett, Charger said, "You are an extremely lucky man. It's hard to believe Charlie gave you a chance to strip the film. I wouldn't have questioned him at all if he had killed you without warning."

Charger told us to remain in place while the "friendly fire" incident was investigated, so we started digging in for the night. First Brigade immediately sent out an investigating team and before the sun set, they determined that the sight on the second mortar was off 100 mills. Being an infantryman, I know 100 mills is a serious error, but artillery and mortar men can figure in their heads how far off target a shell will land if the target is 2,000 meters from the tube. In this case, it was far enough to kill one American and

Continued on page 25

Looking for...



Tania M. Chacho

I am currently an instructor at the United States Military Academy, West Point and working on my dissertation on the Second World War. Specifically, I am working with Johns Hopkins University to research the factors that motivated combat infantrymen in the European Theater of Operations, and I am writing to seek your help. I am searching for copies of letters or diaries of infantrymen who fought in the 4th Infantry Division during the war. If anyone is interested in providing copies of letters or diaries to assist in my research, they can contact me at

34 Cedar Lane
Highland Falls, NY 10928
Tania.Chacho@usma.army.mil

Art Kelly

I served with C/1/8 from 4/3/68 until 4/3/69. My squad was sent on a patrol to stop an ambush on a convoy. When we came to a rope bridge, my pointman told me he did not think the bridge would hold our weight. I went on the bridge to see and it gave way. I fell about 4 stories to the bottom of a dry creek bed and hurt my back. I had an operation on my back and now I need another one. I'm thinking this happened around October of 1968. I'm looking for someone that was on that patrol or remembers me and can verify what happened.

5819 east 33rd St.
Tucson, AZ 85711
520-790-2528

John Benitez, Jr.

I am interested in contacting members of Charlie Company, 3/12 Inf. who served with me in Vietnam from June 1967 to January 1968. In particular, anyone who remembers Dak To from 11/67 until 1/68. I would like to hear from one and all. I was the 3rd platoon Aid Man and later senior Aid Man. I am also trying to find out the details for 3 members of the company who were KIA. Their names are John "Lucky" Lobsinger from St. Louis Park, MN; SSGT Andrade from Honolulu, HI; and 1SGT Malave - Rios from New York City.

They were all killed in January of 1968.

344 W. Rowland Ave.
Madison Hts, MI 48071

Priscilla Marchbank

I am James C. Marchbank's widow. He was with C/2/8 Infantry in Vietnam. I am just looking for any of his friends that served with him in May 68 - 69. He was from Oaklawn IL. PCPCK252@aol.com

100 Hilltop Court
Brooklyn, WI 53521 608-455-1529

Victor D. Segui

vicnzue@swbell.net My best friend served with the 1/12 4th Inf. in Plei Trap Valley, Pleiku, Ausha Valley. We are trying to find brothers from the same unit. Is there any way you can help us. His name is George Ralston, he was a point man. He lives in Oklahoma.

Carol Tuckwiller

I am gathering information on the role of the Native Americans in World War II for our Archival Collection at the National D-Day Memorial Foundation, in Bedford, Virginia. Specifically, I would like to locate information on Native Americans who were in the D-Day Invasion on June 6, 1944. I have discovered an article by Thomas D. Morgan titled "Native Americans in World War II"; [excerpted from Army History: The Professional Bulletin of Army History, No. 35 (Fall 1995), pp. 22-27].

In one of the paragraphs, it mentions that "... Indians served conspicuously in the 4th and 88th Divisions, ..." Does your organization have any references or histories that might shed some light on this topic? Are you aware of any current members of the 4th Infantry Division Association who are Native American, anyone who might be willing for us to contact them for additional information?

Ms. Carol Tuckwiller

Director of Research and Archives
National D-Day Memorial Foundation
202 East Main Street, P.O. Box 77

Bedford, VA 24523 800.351.3329
540.586.3329

Lee Marsh

I have recently joined the 4th Infantry Divisional element of the WWII Living History association here in the UK. What I am trying to find out, is, during 1944 what was the SSI coloring for the division? I have seen green on green and recently saw a service tunic with the green on white version of the SSI. I am confused, as nobody seems to be able to give me a definitive answer to my question. I was wondering if your organization might be able to answer the question once and for all!

CATLEE@lmarsh31.fsnet.co.uk

Zachery Martinez

I was trying to find information on my Grandfather who served in the 4th Infantry Division during WWII. Could you possibly let me know who or where I could look to find the information on him. Your website has been very informative.

E-mail: zmartinez1@yahoo.com

Gary Rhay, Historian

In conjunction with the Library of Congress we are looking for veterans of any conflict (with an emphasis on WWII) who would consent to be interviewed about their experiences on camera. Free, unedited copies of the interview are provided to the veteran and the masters are retained in the Living History Archive. We are based in Oregon, have traveled throughout the West and elsewhere when large groups are available. Any assistance you could provide in locating willing veterans would be greatly appreciated. For more information or questions contact me at edigary@aol.com or call 800-547-6014 and ask for Gary Rhay. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Denise

I am searching for any info. I can find on my uncle who was killed in the battle of

the bulge. I am searching for my mom, his sister. They never really knew what happened to him. His last letter was post-marked Jan. 24th. 1945. His name was Herbert O. Snyder Jr. I have only: 42095638 Inf. G Co. 4th Plt. A.P.O.15657. I do know that he died in a hospital and a year later they gave his parents a body to bury. He was in a temporary cemetery first. They have his Purple Heart. We were hoping for any info at all! We would appreciate any help! Very sincerely, Denise Theall/ Levitt

AmericanMade1962@aol.com



Claudio Biscarini

Hi! I'm an Italian Honorary member of these US Veterans Association: 88th

I.D. Blue Devil and 91st I.D. Powder River. I would know, please, if it's possible to correspond with Veterans of the 4th I.D. that were on Utah beach June 6, 1944. Empoli, Italy

biscarini.claudio@libero.it



SGM Larry Adams

I am trying to help a friend who is trying to locate someone that he was stationed with in the 4th ID. I thought maybe there was a chance he could be a part of your association. His last name is Hensen. He was a 1LT(P) and served from 1953-1955 with the 8th Reg, HQ BN (Tank Company). He is from Nebraska. Any information would be helpful. Thanks for your time., Fort Riley, KS.

DCASGM@riley.army.mil



Roger Stephens (Shaky)

from Dayton, Oh. I served Army Medic in Vietnam from Jan. 69-Sept. 69 I was on Superstitious Mtn. and Mile High. Also at LZ Mary-Lou near Kontum. If there are members out there that wish to contact me. My e-mail is: Signuphere@aol.com



Matthew

My uncle was in the 4th Infantry Division from dec. 1965 to Sep. 1967 I'm really close to him and he does not have a computer yet. I just need some information on A Battery, 5th Battalion, 16th Artillery.

mcarnicom@prodigy.net



John

Wondering if you would be able to help me. I am looking to find after action reports for the battle at FSB Gold (Suoi Tre). Could you steer me in the right direction? Also need to know what engagements the 3rd of the 22nd where in mainly a company. If I am not mistaken they later transfer to the 25th div. I looked at Vietnam war records and could find nothing. I am pretty new at this so I could use a little help

E-mail pistello2@aol.c

Co. G 12th Infantry Reunion 2003

Co. G is holding our 6th reunion on September 24 – 28, 2003. The reunion will be held at the Beach Colony Resort, Myrtle Beach, SC. Anyone wishing to attend please contact Johnnie B. Newton Jr., 594 Todd Dr. NE, Concord, NC 28025. 704-782-6256

Hope to see all of our regular G Co. men and wives. I will announce in a future Ivy Leaves an update on all activities.

Johnnie B. Newton, Jr .

4th Infantry Division Association ♦ ♦ 2003 Scholarship Application

Complete this form and mail it to: Alexander Cooker, 78 N. Dupont Rd., Carneys Point, NJ 08069

Member's Name: _____

Phone: _____ Chapter: _____

Student's Name: _____

Student's Relation to Member: _____

Name and Type of School: _____

Address: _____

One Application per student. Must be received by June 15, 2003.

Order Form

Yes, I want my first edition copies of "Utah Beach to Pleiku" so I can read the stories from our 4th Infantry Division veterans. Mail your order and check, made out to National 4th Infantry Division Association, to: **PO Box 682212, Marietta, GA 30068.**

Please send me the following:

One or two copies at \$25 each (incl.shipping) (1) or (2) x \$25 = _____

Three copies at special rate of \$70 (incl.shipping) (3) books = _____

(Great gift for family members or to give to your local school or library – share your 4ID history with your community. You made history, let it be known.)

Add'l copies, beyond three, at \$22 each (incl. shipping) ____ x \$22 = _____

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On June 26, 1944 I entered Cherbourg, France. The 4th and 9th Infantry Divisions had just taken the town. I was to be a replacement in C Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Regiment of the Fourth 'Ivy' Division. The whole 4th Division had lost a large number of men from June 6 to June 26.

On this day I met Richard Engle from Columbus, Ohio. He was the BAR man and I was appointed his assistant. I was twenty-two and he was eighteen. He proceeded to tell me what my job was with the Browning Automatic Rifle. I was to have a cartridge belt holding either to twenty round magazines of .30 caliber ammunition. I would take over the BAR if something happened to him.

As soon as we left Cherbourg, we were attacking the Germans again. Our next objective was St. Lo. It was in the hedgerow country of Normandy. We were suffering heavy casualties of killed and wounded. It was a nerve shattering experience. We crossed a footbridge under shell-fire and there was a dead man lying there. That evening I said to some of the men around me, "Did you see that dead German lying back there by the foot-bridge?" They straightened me out real quick. "That was no German, that was one of our men." I was so nervous I guess I expected to see all dead Germans. Never again was there any case on my part of mistaken identity. I stepped on and over more dead American boys than I will try to count.

We were going up a slope and passed a small shed with a tile roof. Once again, we were behind a hedgerow. The Germans opened up on us with their machine guns. Their bullets would kick up the tile on the roof of the shed behind us as they waved their machine guns back and forth. We were going over the hedgerow and I was behind Engle. As he climbed up on the hedgerow, the Germans opened up with their machine guns. Engle flipped back off the hedgerow like you see in the movies right on his back. A couple of us immediately tried to find out where he was hit. It didn't take long. The bullet entered the top of his shoulder and came out his back near his shoulder blade. The bullet came out sideways leaving an opening in his back the shape of a .31 caliber German bullet. I checked his backpack after cutting the

WWII Experiences & Reunion Memories

By Henry C. Strecker

I could see his lung moving up and down through the hole in his back. There was blood coming from his mouth. The aid men arrived shortly and carried him away. I said good-bye to him not knowing whether he would live or die.

straps loose from his shoulders. The bullet entered the pack and hit a button on his raincoat. It bent the point on the bullet in an L shape. I gave it to him and said, "here's a souvenir, keep it." He grinned and clutched it in his hand.

I could see his lung moving up and down through the hole in his back. There was blood coming from his mouth. The aid men arrived shortly and carried him away. I said good-bye to him not knowing whether he would live or die.

I took the BAR and began firing back at the Germans. Not used to firing the weapon, I held my finger on the trigger until it stopped. The gun spit those bullets out so fast, I thought it had jammed on me. I finally realized the magazine was empty. I then removed the empty and jammed a full one in the receiver. I finally had the gun so hot; I couldn't touch the barrel. I thought I better oil this thing before it does

jam. We carried a small can of oil in a pouch on our cartridge belt. I poured some on the receiver and it was like pouring water on a hot stove. They brought up more ammo from the rear and I had to start reloading my magazines from the bandoleers of new cartridges.

Our bazooka man fired a round into the corner of the farmhouse on the other side of the hedgerow near the Germans. After a while, the firing subsided.

Two of our sergeants went across the field between us. Peering over the hedgerow, they saw a hole in the ground. They dropped a grenade in the hole and after it exploded, two Germans came clambering out. The sergeants put a pistol to their heads and ushered them back to our side. One had several toes blown off. After some swearing by the sergeants, they offered them cigarettes and lit it for them.

It was getting dark and one of our lieutenants was looking around near the farmhouse. A sniper shot him right between the eyes. His name was Lt. English. He had gray hair and a gray mustache. He was a very nice person. We missed him very much.

The next day we attacked again going through the same maniacal, mind bending, mind shattering shooting and killing. We took St. Lo on July 26, 1944.

The third time I was hit was about the time Ward Means got wounded. C Company, First Battalion, 12th Regiment of the Fourth Division with one platoon from A Company were attacking the Germans in the Hurtgen Forest. Snow was falling on the morning of November 11, 1944. F and G Companies Second Battalion, 12th Regiment were surrounded by Germans for about three days without food or medical supplies. It was do or die. Heavy weapons D Company set up two water-cooled .30 caliber machine guns and opened fire as we charged the Germans. We ran at them yelling, "let em have it", as we ran firing our guns. The Germans were completely caught off guard. I took one German prisoner out of a foxhole. The rest ran off into the woods. I started telling the boys from F Company, lying in their foxholes that we had broken through the German lines. They were extremely happy and some cried. I was out of water so I started scooping up hands

full of water out of holes torn in the ground by shell fragments. I felt like I owned that forest. The Germans started firing .88 MM armor piercing shells at us from a Tiger tank. The shells would hit the three to four inch thick pine tree trunks snapping them off like toothpicks three or four at a time. The tree trunks would snap in a cloud of steam like vapor. I walked around like nothing could kill me. That feeling is very rare. Most of the times you're groveling for a hole and praying you don't get hit. Also shaking like a leaf.

It started getting dark and orders came up that we had to spend the night there. I started looking for a foxhole to crawl into. There was a dead German in a hole and I grabbed him by the boots and started to pull him out but the cloying smell stopped me. I did not think I could cope with that odor all night.

Ray Letterest occupied the next hole I came to. Ray invited me in to spend the night there. In the middle of the night I woke up. Ice water was dripping down my neck. My feet were ice cold. I raised my head to look down at my feet. During the night it started to snow again and my boots were covered with snow.

The elements were taking their turn at giving us the works. At dawn we awoke with nothing to eat. Ray had an extra bitter sweet chocolate bar which he offered me. I appreciated this tremendously.

After about three hours we received orders to withdraw from these positions. In the meantime the Germans dropped a small mortar round on us and it hit in the pine trees overhead sending a shower of snow down on us. The shrapnel hit no one. I thought to myself, this does not look good. They are probably zeroing in on us. As we moved on out, I saw a new Browning Automatic Rifle used as a support to hold up the front of a foxhole. I was tempted to change it for my old one but second thoughts stopped me. Mine was tried and true.

As we moved on out, we had to pass through some cleared ground. As we suspected, we had given them four hours to set up their artillery. The German artillery gunners were second to none. All hell broke loose. By this time in my fighting career, I became an old hand at finding the nearest hole or whatever to crawl into. I found a hole with four other fellows in it.

November 13th, suddenly I heard someone calling, "Help me fellow!" I immediately recognized the voice of Ward "Brownie" Means. I hesitated momentarily, thinking I'm relatively safe in this hole. But then when you think if that was me out there, I would want someone to help me. I scrambled out of the hole and ran over to where Brownie was lying in the snow.

We were in there like sardines.

November 13th, suddenly I heard someone calling, "Help me fellow!" I immediately recognized the voice of Ward "Brownie" Means. I hesitated momentarily, thinking I'm relatively safe in this hole. But then when you think if that was me out there, I would want someone to help me. I scrambled out of the hole and ran over to where Brownie was lying in the snow.

There was an aid lieutenant with Ward but that lieutenant wasn't much bigger than me. I only weighed about 135 pounds but the good Lord turned our bodies into steel. I put Ward's left arm over my shoulder and the lieutenant took his right. Ward was hit in the back and couldn't walk. His left hand had the forefinger tip and thumb blown off. Blood was running down the front of my raincoat. If someone saw you dragging someone at home here with a back injury like that they would swear you were crazy. But the time was NOW. Smoke was curling up out of the shell holes around us. We had to drag Ward over 200 yards of shell ploughed ground with rounds falling all around us. Only by the grace of God did we make it. We put Ward on a litter and the aid people carried him back. They shelled us for over an hour before they quit. They used zonal fire on us, not changing the settings on their guns.

I crawled into another hole with two aid men in it. The one aid man asked if I was hit. Ward's blood was on my coat and there were two holes in it. I said no. I opened my raincoat and fatigue shirt. I was wearing a German pistol I found in a farmyard back in Normandy. I had made a shoulder holster for it. A piece of shrapnel went through my coat and shirt, hit the pistol tearing the holster and gouging the steel butt, bounced out leaving two holes two inches apart. I still have the pocket out of the shirt, which means nothing to any-

one but my family and me. God had his hand over me again.

On May 25, 1994, my wife Dee and I went to a mini-reunion of the Fourth Division at the Radisson Hotel in Columbus, Ohio. It was a four-day get together and there were several other conventions going on in the same hotel.

On Friday evening we were in the hospitality room on the second floor. Dee and I always liked to welcome new members. I had just met a first time fellow and while we were talking a man with a gray beard and wearing a business suit walked in and then left. After I finished talking to the man I had just met, I asked the bartender if he knew the name of the man who just left. He said he thought it was Angle or something like that. A light bulb lit up in my head and I said, "Was his first name Richard?" He said he didn't know.

I ran straight down to the nearest elevator and down to the lobby. One of the men organizing the reunion was coming toward me and I asked him if he had seen a man with a beard. He said yes, he tried to get him to join the Fourth Division Association. I asked what his name was and he replied, Richard Engle.

I was frantic. I thought after fifty years of wondering if this man lived, he got away from me. I went to the girl at the desk and asked if she had a listing for Richard Engle. She said yes but I can't give you his room or phone number. I explained my situation and she said she would try to call his room. After about an hour, I gave up. I figured he had gone somewhere and I would call him about nine in the morning.

Next morning, I called and the operator connected me to his room. My heart was pounding. I said, Richard you won't believe who this is. After I explained he said he would come right down to our room.

We had a wonderful conversation for about an hour. They had sent him right back home after he got hit. The doctor told him if he would have coughed on the way back from the front, he would have bled to death. Needless to say, we were two happy buddies. Richard became a priest when he came back. He was only at the Radisson that day to attend a Catholic convention and had seen the 4th Division convention notice by coincidence. He is a close friend of our Parish priest and stops to visit now when he is in town. He also showed me the bullet I handed him fifty years ago.

Over the years, especially in November when the snow fell, I would remember Brownie Means, the man from Big Sky country Montana and often wondered if he was ever able to ride horses again, which was mostly what he had talked about of home. It was sad not knowing if he even lived through the war.

In 1992, I attended my fiftieth Mt. Healthy High School reunion. During the celebration dinner, different people got up and told a little about themselves. There were only about 200 of us in this class and one girl got up and mentioned that she was from Broadus, Montana originally. I remembered that by a strange coincidence that was where Brownie was from and later asked if she knew him or his family. She said she knew a Ward Means and the next time she was home in Broadus, she would try to give him my phone number and address. A few months later she met Brownie who she only knew as Ward in the hardware store in Broadus. He had moved to Sheridan, Wyoming but was also paying a visit when they met. Ward called me and he and his wife drove down to visit us in Ohio. It was a very emotional time after fifty years. Ward has a truly lovely wife and family and his grandchildren are riding horses. Ohio and Montana are far apart on the map but very close when measured by the heart.

Henry served as a combat infantryman from June 1944 until April 12, 1945 when he was hit in the leg. He received a Bronze Star, Purple Heart and 5 battle stars. He thanks God everyday for his life and continues to correspond with Father Engle, Ward and Dora Means, and Hubert Gees who was opposite him in the Hurtgen Forest.

A VETERAN DIED TODAY

He was getting old and paunchy
 And his hair was falling fast,
 And he sat around the Legion
 Telling stories of the past.
 Of the war that he fought in
 And the deeds that he had done.
 In his exploits with his buddies
 They were heroes, everyone.
 And tho sometimes, to his neighbors
 His tales became a joke,
 All his buddies listened,
 For they knew whereof he spoke.
 But we'll hear his tales no longer,
 For old Bob has passed away,
 And the world's a little poorer,
 For a Veteran died today.
 No, he won't be mourned by many,
 Just his children and his wife,
 For he lived an ordinary,
 And very quiet sort of life.
 He held a job and raised a family,
 Quietly going on his way;
 And the world won't note his passing;
 Tho' a Veteran died today.
 When politicians leave this earth,
 Their bodies lie in State,
 While thousands note their passing
 And proclaim that they were great.
 Papers tell of their life stories,
 From the time that they were young,
 But the passing of a Veteran
 Goes unnoticed and unsung.
 Is the greatest contribution,
 To the welfare of our land,
 Some jerk who breaks his promise
 And cons his fellow man?
 Or the ordinary fellow,
 Who in times of war and strife
 Goes off to serve his Country
 And offers up his life?
 The politician's stipend

And the style in which he lives,
 Are sometimes disproportionate,
 To the service that he gives.
 While the ordinary Veteran,
 Who offered up his all,
 Is paid off with a medal
 And perhaps a pension, small.
 It's so easy to forget them,
 For it's been so long ago,
 That our Bob's and Jim's and Johnny's
 Went to battle, but we know.
 It was not the politicians,
 With their compromise and ploys,
 Who won for us the freedom
 That our Country now enjoys.
 Should you find yourself in danger,
 With your enemies at hand,
 Would you really want some cop-out,
 With his ever waffling stand?
 Or would you want a Veteran,
 Who has sworn to defend,
 His home, his kin and Country,
 And would fight until the end?
 He was just a common Veteran
 And his ranks are growing thin,
 But his presence should remind us
 We may need his likes again.
 For when countries are in conflict,
 Then we find the Military's part,
 Is to clean up all the troubles
 That the politicians start.
 If we cannot do him honor,
 While he's here to hear the praise,
 Then at least let's give him homage,
 At the ending of his days.
 Perhaps just a simple headline
 In the paper that might say:
 OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING,
 FOR A VETERAN DIED TODAY.

Submitted by Wayne Brown

National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division webpage:
www.4thinfantry.org

wound five more.

We stayed where we were the next day, got three hot meals, replacements for the dead and wounded, and were given a chance to recover from the shock of the incident. At dawn on the second day we resumed our journey toward Cambodia.

Late that same day we entered an open area 500 meters in diameter. The area looked as if it had been completely divested of vegetation at some time in the last two years. This usually happened when a Mountagnard village occupied a site and then moved to a different location. The existing vegetation was brush two feet high and a few small trees ten feet tall and three inches in diameter.

When we reached this area the tanks moved off the road and 100 meters outside the infantry. The tanks didn't want us outside them because we would be in their fields of fire. I was walking 25 meters inside the tank on the left side of the road. All hatches on the tanks were open to provide as much ventilation as possible for the tank crews because it was very hot and dusty.

The tanks went straight ahead, without turning to avoid anything in their path, because there wasn't anything large enough in the area to slow them down. From time to time a tank altered its course a little to run over something different. I believe, though I don't know for sure, that tankers enjoy crushing things. They were certainly enjoying themselves that day.

Directly in front of the tank to my left was a small tree. At first glance I felt something was wrong with that particular tree. I studied it for a couple of seconds before I realized there were no leaves anywhere on it. The tree stood ten feet tall and was three inches in diameter, but not a single leaf adorned its branches. Looking at the top I saw a strange ball three feet in diameter and swirling like it was alive.

At that moment the tank hit the tree and the ball fell right into the commander's hatch. Yelling, screaming and cursing erupted from inside the tank as it came to an abrupt halt. All five crewmembers bailed out, running from the tank and stripping off their clothes as they ran. The living ball at the top of the tree was a colony of fire ants. It took two hours, with the assistance of the other tank crews and the engineers, to kill enough fire

ants to allow the crew back in the tank.

Two days after the fire ants, we reached the Cambodian border and camped there. The intelligence officer who started this adventure wanted us to remain at the border long enough for the enemy to find us. His logic insisted the VC find us and the improved highway. Unless the VC attacked, he couldn't prove they knew we were at the border.

The engineers provided plywood and paint, (It's amazing what engineers carry into battle), and we made a sign to place at the border. We erected a sign that read, "WELCOME TO VIETNAM. HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS COURTESY OF 3RD BATTALION 8TH INFANTRY."

We did stay at the border long enough for the VC to find us. Thanks to the intelligence officer, C Company 3rd of the 8th Infantry was the first unit in Vietnam to be subjected to a gas attack. CS gas is the army's more powerful (nasty) version of tear gas. CS is not really a gas, but a crystalline powder. When disbursed it fills the eyes, nose and throat with irritants that cause tears, choking and vomiting.

The VC had obtained some CS powder from somewhere. They went upwind of our location, climbed a tree and began tossing the CS crystals up into the wind blowing right into our position. The instant Captain Powers reported the CS, Charger ordered us to get back to the fire base at Cherokee Flats as fast as possible.

The return trip only produced one noteworthy incident. We had to stop one night where we were surrounded by thick brush and small trees. The location was within range of the same Ruff Puff mortars that had fired on the 1st Platoon a few days previously and this added to our anxiety.

Captain Powers ordered the D-9 Cat to clear a 50-meter swath around our bivouac site to give us minimal protection from infiltration. As the Cat began smashing the jungle around us, we started digging in for the night. When the cat came to our side of the perimeter it was starting to get dark. I was walking around checking my platoon's positions, and ensuring they were deep enough and located so that all approach lanes were covered.

The Cat was ripping up, with a vengeance, the jungle in front of my platoon. He was moving as fast as that machine could go and still crush the small trees and brush obscuring our view. The sun went down and the impending darkness gave the operator an increased sense of urgency.

Completing my first pass along the platoon's positions, I turned to look at the Cat before starting back along the perimeter to my place behind the center of the platoon. Just as my eyes locked onto the Cat, there was a tremendous explosion under the blade and everyone dove for cover. Raising my head to inspect, I saw a huge cloud of smoke, dust and debris. There was no breeze blowing that evening, and the cloud of smoke and dust seemed to last forever.

When the smoke dissipated, the operator tumbled out of the cab and tried to crawl away. He was in my platoon's area so the 1st Squad and I rushed to his aid while SFC Hoopes radioed Captain Powers the information. The rest of the platoon provided cover while we hurried toward the operator.

When we reached him, he was disoriented, dizzy, bleeding from his ears and nose, but otherwise unharmed. We picked him up and carried him to the road where company headquarters was located.

We were unable to determine what exploded; it might have been an old French land mine, a large unexploded artillery shell, or perhaps a bomb that had lain buried in the jungle since the French left the area in 1954. Captain Powers told Brigade it was an old French anti-tank mine. Whatever exploded when the Cat's blade struck it, and detonated it, there was enough force to break the left arm on the blade of a D-9 Cat. With the broken arm, the blade could not be raised and we had to accept the fields of fire cleared, even though they were sorely inadequate. Another engineer came, got the Cat and loaded it on the prime mover.

Military Intelligence thought up Task Force Ferina to show Hanoi Hanna the U.S. Army could build a road to Cambodia if it wanted to. The carnage recorded here was inflicted on American troops so Military Intelligence could prove a point, thus providing an insight into the depth and quality of Military Intelligence.

New Members ♦♦♦ National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association

Name	Unit	Era	Name	Unit	Era
November 2002			Noah E. Marcum	B 4TH ENG	1940 - 1945
Stanley R. "Stan" Bode	A/3/8 INF	1967-1968	Raymond Mena	4TH S&T	1967 - 1968
Rellius J. Boudreaux	B/3/8	1969-1970	Douglas Milliken	E/3/8 INF	1969 - 1970
Gary W. Boyle	A/1/10 CAV	1969-1970	James M. Moher	MEMORIAL	1944
Melvin E. Brewer	B/1/10 CAV	1966-1967	Irving Morales	4TH AVN BN	1967 - 1968
Herbert Carstens	HSB/6/29 FA	1966-1967	Edward O'Mahoney	U/U/8	1960 - 1963
Ned A. Donaldson	704TH MAINT	Vietnam	Richard Scanio	C BTRY 6/29	1967 - 1968
Terry J. Giannoni	D/5/16 FA	1970-1971	Roger D. Shelton	374TH RRF	1969 - 1970
Wilmot M. Keeler	A/1/14 INF	1968-1969	Ronald E. Tolkin	A/6/29TH FA	1965 - 1967
Robert D. Kirkland	E/3/8 INF	1969-1970	Don Williams	A BTRY 6/29	1967 - 1968
WILLIAM D. LASH	DIV HQ	Korean Era	Joseph Woods	124TH SIG	1968 - 1969
Richard D. Matthews	B/6/29 FA	1969-1970			
Michael A. Nicolas	704 MAINT	1969-1970			
John A. Plummer	B/1/10 CAV	1969			
Jim Vaughn	C/3/8 INF	1969-1970			
W. Robert Watson	C/1/10 CAV	1966-1967			
Wallace Robert Watson	C/1/10 CAV	1966-1967			
David J. Widlicka	B/1/10 CAV	1967-1968			
Stephen Wittenberg	B/2/8 INF	1967-1968			
Richard L. Woitkowiak	U/1/35 INF	1968-1969			
December 2002					
Fred Betteridge	3 S BN/3 BDE	1967-1968			
Pegi Bolyard	HQ/1/22	WWII			
Rick Brannan	D/3/8	1967-1968			
Charles R. Cockerton	A/6/29 FA	1967-1968			
Ronnie Cribbs	4TH MP CO	1968-1969			
Thomas Eberspacher	B/5/16 FA	1965-1967			
Charles N. "Skip" Franges	C/3/8	1967-1968			
Michael S. Gulo	HSB/6/29 FA	1966-1967			
Floyd I. Jr. Harper	I/U/22	1950-1952			
Robert D. Hillsberry	B/3/8	1967-1968			
Gary L. Hoffman	HSB/6/29 FA	1966-1967			
Ian D. Jones		1969-1970			
Michael S. Kephart	C/3/8	1966-1967			
Kevin V. Kister	4TH ADMIN	1969-1970			
Eugene H. Larpenier	6/29TH FA	Vietnam			
Jacob "Doc" Marks	D/3/8	1968-1969			
Jerry L. Maxwell	B/6/29 FA	1969-1970			
James R. McConnell	D/3/8	1969-1970			
Donald A. Nessly	C/6/29 FA	1966-1967			
Peter T. Parker	U/6/29TH FA	1967-1968			
Jo Rask	L/3/22	Memorial			
George A. Rocco	C/4/42 FA	1966-1967			
Barbara M. Stout	L/3/22	Memorial			
Joseph W. Thibodeau	E/4/ENG	Vietnam			
Chuck White	RED CROSS	1968			
Dennis Wolf		Vietnam			
January 2003					
Mark S. Auer	HHC/3/12	Vietnam			
Johnnie L. Bing	C/3/8 INF	1967 - 1968			
CPT. Paul A. Blundell	404TH ASB	Active Duty			
Michael E. Brandrup	HSB/6/29 FA	1968 - 1969			
Robert Coriarty	374/RRC	1968 - 1969			
Marvin L. Epstein	C/6/29TH FA	1967 - 1968			
William G. Farris	374/RRC	1968 - 1969			
Gordon F. Frey		WWII			
Francis M. Hasselberger	A/6/29TH FA	1965 - 1967			
David Jack	A/3/8	1967 - 1968			
SFC (Ret) Jeffrey L. Lear	B/1/69 ARMOR	Vietnam			
Fred E. (Doc) Libby III	5/16TH FA	1970 - 1971			

Leukemia Linked to Agent Orange in Vietnam Veterans

By Chuck McKee, NSO-4IDA

National Health Institute researchers have found a link between a type of leukemia and soldiers exposed to Agent Orange, a herbicide used extensively in the Vietnam war. The finding prompted Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony Principi to extend benefits to veterans with the illness. The Secretary went on to say that "... its sad that we have to presume connection because we know that veterans have cancer that may have been caused by their battlefield service. But it's the right thing to do." It will take about a year to finalize and implement the regulations VA administrators predict.

The VA expects to find about 500 new cases of CLL a year among Vietnam veterans. Some 2.6 million people served in Vietnam during the war, most of who are still alive. The VA reports that over 10,000 Vietnam veterans are receiving disability pay for other illnesses related to exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides used during the war. Veterans diagnosed with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL) would start receiving improved benefits, such as disability compensation and priority healthcare services. It would appear that those diagnosed with this type of leukemia will be awarded a 100% service connected rating. (Information taken from AP Wire release)

NSO NOTE: I would suggest to all Ivymen who served in Vietnam to be aware of this information. Make sure your families and your family physicians are aware of your exposure to herbicides, especially Agent Orange. Each of us should be registered on the VA's Agent Orange registry. If you are not simply call (1-800-827-1000) and request to be added. You'll need proof of in-country service (DD214). We served in an area (II Corps) that received the second highest amount of herbicides, especially Agent Orange, second only to the DMZ. * Also if you know of a buddy, who may have died from cancer, ask if it was leukemia and advise the family of this information. Some benefits may be extended to dependent family members if the death can be linked to this disease.

(* Why do you think they always had us roll down our sleeves and/or put on our shirts when the helicopters sprayed?)

Chapter Events



Wisconsin Chapter Reunion

Date: May 2 - 4, 2003
Place: Americinn Of Prairie Du Chien
 130 So. Main St. (Hwy 18 West io Bridge)
 1-800-634-3444 (Must ask to be connected to Prairie Du Chien facility and ask for 4th Division. reservation) *or*
 1-608-326-7878 direct and ask for 4th Div.
Rate: \$94.90 per tight, tax included

The weekend will include hospitality, business meeting, lunch, museum tour, banquet, raffle and survivor breakfast. We will be touring the Fort Crawford Museum/Second Fort Crawford Military Hospital. The riverboat casino is close by and breakfast has been scheduled for there. We will get a break in the buffet price after we sign up for a player's card. Sandy Grobelch will be assisting us with this when you arrive.

Reservation Form

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone _____ No. Attending _____
 Banquet Buffet\$20 Per Person
Anyone under 9 can order from childs menu, which will be \$3.00 per and must be included. Dinner choices will be available during happy hour.
 Tour\$3.50 per person
 No. of Adults ____ Amount _____
 No. of Children ____ Amount _____
 Make checks payable to: Wis. 4th Infantry/C/O Arlen Bliefernicht, 303 Lincoln, Poynette, WI.

Arizona Chapter Spring Reunion

The Arizona Chapter Spring Reunion will be held April 15th, 16th, and 17th at Ramada Express in Laughlin Nevada. Special room rates have been arranged for those wishing to attend. The rate is \$16.00 per night if reservation is made before March 31st.

For reservations call 1-800-243-6846 reservations. Our contract group number is 8351. This number must be mentioned to get the rate quoted.

We will have dinner at Nikki's in Bullhead City on Thursday night, April 17th. Dinner is choice of steak or chicken for \$25 including tax, tip and everything. If you plan to attend, send check for \$25 to Mike Irving, 5145 Midnight Oil Dr., Henderson, NV 89122. **He must receive check by March 31.** Specify steak or chicken. The rooms are cheap and the slots are loose, so come if you can. All members are welcome.

Carolinas Chapter Spring 2003 Mini-Reunion

The Carolinas Chapter will hold its 2003 Spring Reunion April 25-27, 2003, at the Holiday Inn - Airport, Exit 111-B, I-26, Columbia, South Carolina. Make your reservations direct with the Hotel (803-794-9440).

Mention the 4ID Reunion to get our group rate of \$ 65 / Night. Direct any questions to Rick Adams at (864-576-7359 or 864-576-0800). Please pre-register using the Registration Form below or call me so we have an accurate count. **Remember to bring your gifts or crafts for our raffle after the Banquet.**

We have invited the new 1/10 Cavalry Chapter to join us at our Spring Reunion. We are looking for a big 4IDA turnout.

Reunion Schedule

Friday 25th	1:00 PM	Hospitality Room Opens
	6:30 PM	Friday Buffet
Saturday 26th	9:00 AM	Chapter Officers Meeting
	10:00 AM	Chapter Business Meeting
	2:30 PM	Lunch Deli-Bar
	6:30 PM	Flames of Remembrance Banquet
Sunday 27th	8:00 AM	Break-a-way Breakfast

Registration Form

Carolinas Chapter – 2003 Spring Reunion

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 Spouse / Guest Name(s): _____
 Registration Fee: (\$5 / per Adult)\$ _____
 Friday Night Buffet: (\$20 per person).....\$ _____
 Saturday Deli Lunch (\$12 per person).....\$ _____
 Saturday Banquet (\$23 per person).....\$ _____
 Flames Of Remembrance\$ _____
 Donation(s))\$ _____
Total Enclosed\$ _____

Return this form by *April 11, 2003* and make check payable to: Carolinas Chapter. **Mail To:** Rick Adams, 101Cinderridge Drive, Spartanburg, SC 29301 864-576-7359.

WPA/OH Chapters 2003 Spring Reunion

The 2003 Spring Reunion of the WPA/OH Chapters will be held during the weekend of **May 8 through 11, 2003** at the Butler DAYS INN and Conference Center, Butler, PA. Room rates will be \$74.00 (tax inclusive) and banquet costs will be \$38.00. Choice of meals will be Yankee Pot Roast or Stuffed Breast of Chicken. Hoagies will be served at NOON Saturday, and the breakaway breakfast will be Sunday morning. More information will be provided in the *Ivy Leaves* as the time nears.

Chuck Mckee

TAPS



All of us in the National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association extend our sincere sympathy to the friends and families of those listed below. May they rest in peace.

- ★ **BERZON**, Roy, 4th Signal Co., WWII, of 1550 Beacon St, Apt 95, Brookline, MA 02446 passed away on December 02, 2002. He was a D-Day Veteran and was awarded the Bronze Star. Thanks to William E. Finnigan
- ★ **BRENNAN**, Randel J., SSGT, Company A, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, WWII, passed away at the age of 86 on July 4, 2002. He served in Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland and Ardennes. His wife Marguerite survives him. Thanks to his wife, Marguerite
- ★ **BRYAN**, Bruce "Doc", passed away on August 17th, 2002 after a lengthy battle with leukemia. He was laid to rest on August 21st with full military honors. He had been residing in Kiowa, KS. He leaves behind his loving wife, Cindy; a son, Jeff; and a daughter, Lacey. Doc served with C/3/8 as head company medic in RVN from Oct 67- Apr 68. You should understand how God intervened in this situation. I had been trying to get in contact with Doc for several years and finally did so in April 2001. Just in time for him to plan on attending the reunion in DC, July 2001. That was a weekend together that I shall always hold dear in my heart. Afterwards, when I didn't hear from Doc for sometime, I became worried that maybe the reunion was too much for him to handle, bringing up old memories - some good, some bad. When I called to check on him, he told me that he was very tired after returning home and finally went to the doctor for a checkup. That's when the leukemia was detected. I felt then that his time was going to come sooner than expected and it was God who enabled us to get together for that one last hurrah, so to speak. In talking with Cindy, that reunion and the subsequent contact with his Brothers meant the world to him. At the end, he was ready to go. Memories of Doc will last forever. One day, we will all be reunited again. He is gone, but shall never be forgotten. Until we meet again. Thanks to Steve "Ed" Edmunds
- ★ **CARROZZA**, Vincent, Lt. COL (ret), 2nd of the 22nd, 4th Infantry Division, passed away on December 21, 2002 at the age of 71 in Toms River, NJ. His military service included 1 tour of duty in Korea and 2 tours in Vietnam. Carrozza was the proud and honored recipient of the Army Commendation Medal, Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service, Presidential Unit Citation and the Cross of Gallantry with Palm. With his love and pride for this country, Carrozza always carried additional American Flag lapel pins to share with anyone whose lapel was in need. An active member of the 2nd of the 22nd, and the Eastern PA Chapter, he and his family attended various reunions and was a life member of the Toms River VFW Silver Holiday Post #10185. His wife Catherine, son Alfred, 3 brothers, and his mother survive him. His joyous spirit of life will be missed by all whom had the pleasure of knowing him. Thanks to his wife Catherine
- ★ **CHEATHAM**, Pinckney H., (CPT) of Franklinton, NC. Mr. Cheatham passed away on November 25th. He was 82. As an officer in the 4th ID during the Normandy Campaign in WWII, he was awarded the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, and CIB. As Mr. Cheatham's Forester and a fellow Infantryman, I feel it my obligation to let his brothers know of his celebration of life and sacrifice to our Country. Thanks to 1LT Christopher E. Smith, INE Executive Officer Co B, 1-120th Infantry (M), 30th Infantry Brigade NC Army National Guard
- ★ **DIPIETRO**, Steven D., Vietnam, 1969, of 11506 Channing Dr., Silver Spring, MD, passed away recently. His wife, Mary Kate, survives him. Thanks to Roger Barton
- ★ **DONATELLO**, Al, a former member of the Ohio Chapter. Al, due to health recently dropped out of the Ohio Chapter. He passed away on August 21, 2002 from complications from a broken hip. On D-Day he landed with Battery "B", 29th Field Artillery. I received this information from John Lester B/29/FA (Western PA Chapter). Thanks to Ray Dunkel
- ★ **DORAN**, Daniel of Media PA passed away on June 20, 2002. He served with the 22nd Infantry, Company E during WWII. His wife Betty and son Charles survive him. Thanks to Joe Grinkewicz
- ★ **FENTON**, Edward, L., C Company, 12th Infantry, WWII, of Taunton, MA passed away on November 02, 2002 at the age of 83. Edward was a SSGT in the 4th Division from 1942-1945. He was wounded twice and received 2 Purple Hearts. His wife, Irene, survives him. Thanks to Frederick H. Corey
- ★ **GLENN**, LaVonne, 79, beloved wife of Elmer, passed away on February 8 following a short illness. Funeral services were held at the Redmond Funeral Home, Freeport, PA. With private interment information provided by Chuck McKee, WPA Sec/Treas
- ★ **HUDGINS**, Floyd W., I/3/22nd Infantry, WWII, 9415 Palm Ave, Port Richey, FL 34668, passed away January 9, 2003. Floyd was a member of the Florida Chapter and his wife, Helen, survives him. Thanks to Edward J. McEniry
- ★ **KOHLBERGER**, Lillian, wife of the late Earl Kohlberger, Co. D/8th Inf. WWII, a past Vice President of the Association and member of the NY-NJ Chapter. Lillian passed away on 13 December 2002, according to word received from her niece, Mrs. Judith A. Cajzer, 5 Bayou Court, Barnegat, NJ 08005. Earl and Lillian and her sister, Mildred, were great friends of the New England Chapter and attended many of our mini-reunions. We have missed them. Earl was an outstanding recruiter for the National 4th (Ivy) Division Association for many years. Thanks to Frank Bradley
- ★ **KVOCKA**, Eli, CAN/12th Infantry, WWII, of 3052 Crestline Dr., Steubenville, OH 43952 passed away November 3, 2002. Eli was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. He was a member of the WPA Chapter of the 4IDA. His wife, Mildred survives him. Thanks to U. T. Masucci
- ★ **LANGERQUIST**, Carl, A/1/22nd Infantry, Vietnam, of 365 Mission Ct., St. Louis, MO 63130 passed away on April 11, 2002. He was a member of the Midwest Chapter of the 4IDA. Thanks to Dick Sullivan
- ★ **LAY**, Vernon L., F/2/12 Infantry, WWII, of 122 W CR 2170, Kingsville, TX 78363 passed away on January 25, 2003. His wife Vicki survives him. He was a member of the Texas Chapter of the 4IDA. Thanks to David Heallen
- ★ **LeSUEUR**, Larry, 93, honorary member of the 4IDA died on February 5, 2003. He was a noted CBS correspondent who landed on Utah Beach with the 4th Division and also was with us when we liberated Paris. In the late 40s and 50s, the New York/New Jersey Chapter had a spring dinner dances, usually at the Pennsylvania Hotel with a few hundred in attendance. Larry LeSueur attended a couple and at least once was the main speaker. Thanks to Bill Buell
- ★ **MAMROSCHE**, Walter, Company F, 8th Infantry, WWII of Dodgeville, NY died of cancer on November 23, 2002 at the age of 84. He was a D-Day Veteran and was wounded in Germany. Late in the war, he received a battlefield commission. He received the Purple Heart and Bronze

Star medals. His wife Audrey and four children survive him. Thanks to Gerald Darr

★ **MEYER**, Kenneth L., CSM, of 111 Greenbriar St., Belton, TX passed away in January of 2003. No other information is available. He was a member of the Texas Chapter of the 4IDA. Thanks to David Heallen

★ **OLSEN**, Bob, of the 40th Tank BN passed away in 2002. No other information was provided. Thanks to James Malone

★ **PIGNOTTI**, Basil T., B Btry., 42nd FA, WWII, of 578 Sandusky, Conneaut, passed away on September 3, 2002 at the age of 77. He was with the 4th Division on D-Day and in the Battle of the Bulge where he was trapped for two weeks before Patton's Third Army came to the rescue. His wife Eleanor and three children survive him. Thanks to his wife, Eleanor

★ **SAUNDERS**, Howard F., L/3/22nd Infantry, WWII, of 425 Belmont Drive, Durham, NC 27703 passed away on October 14, 2002. He was a member of the Carolinas Chapter of the 4IDA. Thanks to Roger Barton

★ **TAYNTON**, Lewis C., Colonel (Ret), U/70 Tank, WWII, 9506 Colonial Drive, Brandon, FL 34210, passed away December 27, 2002. Col. Taynton was a Florida Chapter member and is survived by his wife Laura. Thanks to Edward J. McEniry

★ **TECKMAN**, Bernice L, wife of Ernie, 777 E. Woodward Heights Blvd, Apt 335, Hazel Park, MI 48030, passed away on January 9, 2003. Bernice and Ernie were very active in the Michigan Chapter and attended most of the National and Ohio Reunions. I first met them in 1960 at our National Reunion in Michigan. She is a great loss to her family and our chapter. I am sure Ernie would be glad to hear from any of you. Thanks to Jim Roan

★ **TURCOTTE**, Roy C., 374th RADIO RESEARCH COMPANY (ASA) "FINDER", age 57, a resident of Kingsville, Texas, passed away Saturday, November 9, 2002. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam Era. His wife, Zelda, survives him. Thanks to Steve Zawacki

★ **VICTOR**, Paul G., A/42nd FA, WWII, 12014 Agana Street, Orlando, FL 32837, passed away January 14, 2003. Paul was a member of the Florida Chapter and his wife, Mary, survives him. Thanks to Edward J. McEniry

★ **WANDLING**, Darrell L., passed away July 11, 2002 as reported by his wife. Darrell had served with Company A/1stBTLG. His wife, Carol, resides at 2081 Steeplebrook Drive, Cordova, TN 38016. No other details were provided. Thanks to Lee Rung

Update

Friends of the Central Highlands

We will never forget...

FOCH + Dreams = Reality ❖ YOU + Your Generosity = Monagnard Programs Supported

By Arnold Waggoner and Bob Reilly

In the December issue of the Ivy Leaves, FOCH requested the assistance of each and every member of the National 4th Infantry Division Association to fund a special project called Christmas in the Carolinas. The purpose of the project was to provide funding for a special Christmas for young Montagnard families that had just immigrated to the United States. Your response to the request was overwhelming! Over \$4,000 was raised and most of that came from members of this organization! The money was delivered in person to 6 young families. Three of those families have 5 children of very young ages. The money was distributed according to the size of the family and any other special needs like medical assistance, food or clothing and of course a visit from the big man himself, Santa. The average amount received per family was \$600.00. The FOCH board members take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who selflessly gave to the cause.

It was our intent to let these very brave refugees know that their dreams of coming to America for freedom to say and do and worship as they may, was true. Also that the fight they are continuing to wage in their native homeland of Vietnam is worth it, because they can witness it here. The families of those that supported us so valiantly but were left behind may hope that they too may come to this land and receive such a reception. Our project manager that delivered the money reported that the joy went on forever and, as you read this report, hopefully their smiles will come to you, and your continued support for this project will continue to provide funding for the resettlement

project in the Carolinas. FOCH has included this project as a continuing endeavor to provide assistance to the refugees by sponsoring them in attending driving school, obtaining a driver's license, and purchasing an inexpensive mode of transportation. Social service agencies are in place to help with language and job training so that they can support themselves as soon as possible. A large portion of what they are able to earn now goes to their relatives left behind.

"The Montagnards have no right to live, have no land for farming, no place to live and no church to worship God," said Rong Nay, who has testified before Congress on this issue. Nay, who is the executive director of the Montagnard Human Rights Organization, based in North Carolina, said Vietnam's communist government has mistreated the Montagnards because they are viewed as allies of the West. They cannot practice their ethnic traditions or Christian religion, or keep their property. "We don't know how many Montagnards are dead, missing or in jail," Nay said.¹ Our work goes on. Make it yours, too.

FOCH has received news from Vietnam through our Project Manager's visit in November. The agricultural projects, schoolhouse renovations and scholarships continue to expand. There is a strong military presence in the Central Highlands and we have to be extremely careful when selecting projects to fund. Please continue to pray for the minority people of the Central Highlands, We must never forget their sacrifices and we must never ever let them forget that we have them in our Hearts and Minds and that we will as long as we live.

¹ www.Philly.com *The Philadelphia Enquirer*; Jan. 5, 2003

Misprints

1. At the Ladies Aid Society meeting many interesting articles were raffled off. Every member brought something they no longer needed. Many brought their husbands.
2. First printing: Mr Janelli was a defective in the police force.
Correction: Mr Janelli was a setective in the po-lice farce.
3. The wildwife league will meet tonight.
4. Father of 10 shot — mistaken for a rabbit.



From the Executive Director

Greg Rollinger

As of the middle of February, we still have over 700 members who have not yet paid their 2003 dues. Those 700 people did not receive this issue of *The Ivy Leaves*. I hope that all of our Chapters will keep working on getting the above-mentioned 700 back on our rolls.

I've now gone through two issues of *The Ivy Leaves* as the designated Address Service person. This has been an eye opening experience! If you are looking for a waste of 4IDA money, you need to look no further. The USPS charges us at least \$.70 for each copy that is forwarded to a different address and we are charged at least \$2.06 for each copy that is returned to me because of a bad address that cannot be forwarded. So we are spending between \$50 and \$100 on each issue of *The Ivy Leaves* because of bad addresses. So what can be done about this? Two things come to mind. (1) If you are mov-

ing, please fill out the Change of Address form found in every issue of *The Ivy Leaves* and send it in to me. I'll notify your Chapter Treasurer of your new address. (2) If you are a Chapter Treasurer and discover that one of your members has moved please let me know ASAP so that the National database can be updated. I would suggest that the Chapter Treasurers send out Newsletters at least twice a year so that you can keep your membership interested in the 4IDA and so that you can verify their addresses.

We all need to support our active duty 4th Division Soldiers. As we get more information on how to do that, we will pass it on to the chapters and membership through the chapter officers and through *The Ivy Leaves*. Until then, send them your prayers and best wishes for their safe return.

4thfully, Greg Rollinger

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association

Renewal New

Having served with the 4th Infantry Division, I hereby make application for membership in the National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division and enclose \$15.00 for annual dues.

Complete Unit and where served _____

Name _____

Phone #: _____ EMail _____

Address _____

Mail to:

Greg Rollinger, Executive Director, 13507 Danube Ln, Rosemount, MN 55068

Check your label

Membership Expiration Date

*****5 Digit
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Roger S. Barton
320 2 Spring Drive
Walkersville, MD 21793-1400

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Check your name and address (Apt./Bldg/Lot No.). Notify the Membership Chairman if you find an error. **If your zip code does not contain 9 digits (zip+4)**, your address is not correct according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

Order of the day.. Congratulations!



National 4IDA Sr. Vice President Rick Adams (r) and Cpt John Stewart pin Gold Bars on his son, 2Lt Matthew R. Adams following his OCS commissioning ceremony at Ft Benning, January 10, 2003.

Military Words of Wisdom

- ◆ Five second fuses only last three seconds.
- ◆ Who cares if a laser guided 2000 lb. bomb is accurate to within 9 feet?
- ◆ Hey stupid...The easy way is always mined.
- ◆ Don't ever be the first, don't ever be the last, and don't ever volunteer to do anything.
- ◆ Never share a fox hole with anyone braver than you.
- ◆ Bravery is being the only one who knows you're afraid.
- ◆ Teamwork is essential. It gives the enemy someone else to shoot at.
- ◆ Push to test... Release to detonate.
- ◆ No combat ready unit has ever passed inspection.
- ◆ If it makes it too tough for the enemy to get in, guess what?... you can't get out.
- ◆ Any ship can be a minesweeper... once.
- ◆ The more you sweat in peace, the less you bleed in war.
- ◆ Don't draw fire, it irritates the people around you.
- ◆ The enemy invariably attacks on one of two occasions: When you're ready for them. When you're not ready for them.



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National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division webpage
www.4thinfantry.org

World War I

- ◆ AISNE MARNE
- ◆ ST. MIHIEL
- ◆ MEUSE ARGONNE
- ◆ DEFENSIVE SECTOR
- ◆ ARMY OF OCCUPATION

World War II

- ◆ NORMANDY
- ◆ NORTHERN FRANCE
- ◆ RHINELAND
- ◆ ARDENNES
- ◆ CENTRAL EUROPE
- ◆ GERMANY

Korean War Era

Vietnam

- ◆ COUNTEROFFENSIVE, PHASE II
- ◆ COUNTEROFFENSIVE, PHASE III
- ◆ TET COUNTEROFFENSIVE
- ◆ COUNTEROFFENSIVE, PHASE IV
- ◆ COUNTEROFFENSIVE, PHASE V
- ◆ COUNTEROFFENSIVE, PHASE VI
- ◆ TET 69/COUNTEROFFENSIVE
- ◆ SUMMER-FALL 1969
- ◆ WINTER-SPRING 1970
- ◆ SANCTUARY COUNTEROFFENSIVE
- ◆ COUNTEROFFENSIVE, PHASE VII

Cold War Era



National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association

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